

EXCHANGE:
Closing Quotations—
T.F. London 3s. 1/4d.
On Demand 3s. 1/4d.

The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1851.)

Copyright 1918, by the Proprietor.

April 9, 1918. Temperature 5 a.m. 74 2 p.m. 78
Humidity 92 94

April 9, 1917. Temperature 5 a.m. 67 2 p.m. 76
Humidity 94 91

WEATHER FORECAST—
DULL.
Barometer 29.75

7912 日八廿月二

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 1918.

二拜禮 號九月四英港香

SINGLE COPY 10 CENTS

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

THE BATTLE SITUATION.

A Brilliant British Counter-Attack.

London, April 8.
Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, says:—The counter-attack on Aveluy Wood on April 6 was a brilliant one, practically re-establishing our position along the old line, and we took a hundred and twenty prisoners with a dozen machine-guns. A German officer says that the casualties have been exceptionally heavy during the past fortnight, apparently because they have been moving more freely than heretofore. Among the men also there has been such a toll of non-commissioned officers that a general clean-cut among the older classes is progressing to replace them. Three attacks against the New Zealanders proved horribly costly for the enemy. On each occasion the New Zealanders continued firing Lewis guns until the rapidly-thinning waves were sufficiently close and then they bombed them furiously with hand grenades. It is easy to believe the assurance that the Boches disliked this form of resistance. Their dead are lying like corn-swallows at harvest time before the New Zealanders' positions. The Germans are bringing immense numbers of guns of every calibre into the struggle, but we are combating them pretty adequately. Thus last night a heavy bombardment broke out east of Villers and Bretonneux and there were reasons to believe that it was a preliminary to an infantry attack. We retaliated with such intensity that the enemy bombardment died down, nothing transpiring. A captured airman attributes our greater aerial activity to the greater numbers and superior qualities of the British machines and consequently the Germans cannot afford to risk flying over our territory to any great extent. The enemy is employing machine guns operated by trained teams in very large numbers. He is also losing them in very large numbers.

Important German Losses.

London, April 8.
A French communiqué says:—Our artillery stopped attempted enemy attacks in the region of Hagard in Santerre. We caught concentrations of troops at various points of the front north of Mondidier. A strong German attack on the right of the Meuse, north-east of Hill 344, was repulsed after sharp fighting. The enemy's losses were important. We took twenty prisoners. Seven aeroplanes and two balloons were brought down and five tons of bombs were dropped on cantonments in the Hoye region.

German Hopes and Disappointments.

London, April 8.
According to Reuter's correspondent at New York, the War Department's weekly review states:—The general strategic and tactical position of the Allies is becoming more favourable. The enemy, at the opening of the third week of the offensive, is still far short of attaining his principal objectives. It is now evident that the German High Command, contemplating overwhelming the British at the outset and driving a wedge in the Franco-British forces. The enemy fully expected to achieve this decision in the course of one great battle. The success of the plan depended on his ability to break through the British front and advance so rapidly that the Anglo-French Reserves would be unable to arrive in time to close up the breach and restore the order of the battle. The evidence of prisoners confirms that the enemy hoped to gain the line of the Somme on the evening of the first day. As a matter of fact, he took ten days to cover the ground he had expected to overrun in forty-eight hours. The stubbornness of the British resistance and the severe enemy casualties compelled the Germans to draw heavier reserves than they had anticipated. The Germans are now throwing fresh forces into the battle in an effort to secure some limited objectives. The Allied military machine, under the leadership of General Foch, is working with precise smoothness ensuring the greatest economy, harmony and efficiency in the use of all forces. The moral of the Allied troops remains high. The German offensive has not spent itself, and owing to the enemy's determination to gain some sort of success at any cost, the situation will continue to be uncertain for some time. However, the general strategic and tactical position of the Allies is becoming more favourable and reports continue to indicate that the enemy contemplates an offensive in the Italian theatre of war, possibly along a broad front including the entire northern sector from the Upper Piave to Lake Garda.

Fine Work by Americans.

London, April 8.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Paris, a despatch from the American front states that the enemy on Friday evening attempted at two points to raid the American trenches. The first attack was easily repulsed and the second allowed to approach close to the wire. Then fire was opened by the Americans, whose infantry immediately leapt into the trenches and drove back the assailants. The first German trench was cleared and the enemy compelled to retire to his support trenches. American artillery replied violently to German artillery and two German batteries were silenced.

The Bombardment of Paris.

London, April 8.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Paris, an official message states:—The bursting of one of the long-range guns bombarding Paris is confirmed from a sure source of information. The bursting occurred on March 25 when a Lieutenant and nine men were killed. The long-range bombardment continued yesterday, but there were no victims.

British Line Advanced.

London, April 8.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communiqué, states:—The advanced line slightly during the night on the south bank of the Somme and east of Vire-sous-Corbier. We took a few prisoners north of the Somme, near Neuville Vitasse. There was increased hostile artillery firing during the night on the whole of the battle front. There is heavy gas-shelling between Lens and the La Bassée Canal and also east of Arras.

The Guns Busy.

London, April 8.
A French communiqué states:—The night was marked by violent artillery action, notably on the left bank of the Oise.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

THE BATTLE SITUATION.

The Fresh Outlook.

London, April 8.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Paris, a semi-official message states:—Up to the present there is no reason to regard the German attack on Hill 344 yesterday as indicating a forthcoming offensive in this sector. The Chauny-Barrisais affair does not seem to point to any new departure of a general nature. A great mass of German reserves is still moving towards Amiens, which is still the goal of the German High Command, though the latter is momentarily forced to interrupt the forward movement owing to exhaustion and the heavy losses of his troops.

CONSCRIPTION FOR IRELAND.

Home Rule as a Set-off?

London, April 8.
Lobbyists of the Daily Telegraph and the Morning Post state that the application of Conscription to Ireland may be contingent upon the report of the Convention and the offer of Home Rule by the Government. The Daily Chronicle implores the Government not to make the grant of Home Rule conditional upon the adoption of Conscription.

MORE GERMAN INTRIGUE.

Tribal Leaders Urged to Massacre Allied Subjects.

London, April 8.
The Times correspondent at Tangier states that the Germans in Morocco have made proposals to Raisuli and other tribal leaders that in the event of a victory in France they should rise and revolt, massacre Allied subjects, declare the independence of Morocco and nominate a pro-German Sultan.

BOLO'S FINAL APPEAL REJECTED.

London, April 8.
Reuter's correspondent at Paris states that President Poincaré has rejected Bolo Pasha's final appeal.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE BATTLES IN FRANCE.

A Great French Military Feat.

London, April 7.
Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters reports on April 6: In the second battle beginning on Thursday we held the enemy and repulsed him in most places with heavy losses with troops entering the battle on March 25. The closing days of March were among the most critical of the war. The Germans had been stopped on the Oise and Somme but confronting them between Mondidier and Moreuil with a mere cordon barring the way was Amiens. Troops were raised from a sector hundreds of miles distant as fast as possible and engaged the enemy as soon as they detained. The General, carrying a carbine, with his staff, had arrived and were scouting in the battle-field with only a few cavalry patrols between them and the Boche. A Staff Major was actually killed engaging the German mounted troops. The first reinforcements arrived on March 25, but the main body were several days later. Meanwhile the enemy was preparing a grand attack. The moment was most critical for on March 27 nine miles of line were screened only by cavalry patrols and a few guns. The line was re-established on March 3 but held by only three French divisions. These had for four successive days to meet the shock of thirty enemy divisions. It is a sober fact that for those four days the General with three divisions held up ten times our numbers. There has been no finer military feat during the war. During the whole battle relief was impossible, yet fresh German divisions were thrown in daily. The enemy is fully exploiting his superiority in numbers by attacking in crushing strength, also always with fresh troops. As soon as an enemy division gains its objective it is withdrawn and its place taken by another. A retiring division is reinforced, rests a few days then is again sent to battle. Hence within a week the First Guards Division was engaged on two different sectors. We still hold, essentially the line we held on the 28th March. The enemy hold Moreuil and a number of villages on the west bank of the Aisne but they are dominated by the heights we retain. We hold Grivesnes and the chateau despite determined attacks on March 28th, 29th and 31st. This fight is typical of what is occurring daily. The village was held by five hundred French infantry, commanded by a colonel who blocked the windows of the chateau with mattresses and took up a rifle to help the defenders. They repulsed three regiments of the First Prussian Guards Division, accounted the best in the German Army. The enemy came on in waves, pushed and fed by thick columns of infantry. The French fought them from tree to tree of the park back to the walls of the chateau, whereupon the colonel ordered a counter-attack. The Poilus, crying "Vive la France," charged. After a hideous melee among the trees, they drove the Germans from the park. Fighting against similar odds occurred on those four days along the whole Aisne front. The enemy halted on the 31st for a breather and the attacks were renewed on the 4th inst. with fifteen divisions, including the Guards and Brandenburgers. The onslaught was repulsed with a slight loss of ground little more than the villages of Emally, Rameval and Sauxville. To-day the enemy is quiescent excepting for artillery activity, but the high is expected to be of short duration.

French Line More Solid.

Paris, April 7.
With reference to the French withdrawal at Abbeville south of Chauny in Barisais sector mentioned in last night's communiqué it is semi-officially explained that the French line there formed a dangerous sector which the French High Command decided to reduce. The Germans believed they could catch the French napping by anticipating the movement and attacking the point. They were unable, however, to prevent the conclusion of the French manoeuvre and their attempt was as costly to them as it was useless. The withdrawal merely makes the French line more solid.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE BATTLES IN FRANCE.

Aerial Operations.

London, April 7.
Reporting on aviation, Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig says: Our aeroplanes, watching the enemy movements, reported a hostile concentration southward of the Somme. Large formations immediately went out in the rain, and dropped over five hundred bombs and fired fifty thousand rounds on the assembled infantry. We brought down fifteen and drove down eleven. Sixteen of ours are not yet located many of which doubtless were forced to land behind our lines owing to the difficulty of finding their aerodromes in the heavy rain. The Canadian airmen are doing most valuable work in the present battle. A wireless German official message says: We have captured Pierremont and Folembray.

Another German Attack Expected.

London, April 8.
Reuter's correspondent at British Headquarters, telegraphing on the evening of the 7th, says: Local fighting has continued at various places along the British battlefront and there are sundry signs that the enemy is about to thrust again on a big scale. By the recent fighting north of the Somme the enemy endeavoured to improve his positions and possibly to secure a better jumping-off place. Between Meuzil and Bucquoy the German positions are very unfavourable to artillery movement, therefore there should be a big push to develop this region and only by such could a great concentric attack upon Amiens be carried out. The infantry would soon outpace their gun supports if the enemy achieved further success. So far however their attempts have been almost entirely repulsed, invariably with very heavy losses. The attack of the 5th inst. was carried out by four divisions in waves having only a limited objective. Since the enemy heavily gas-shelled Anchoyville before attacking and as the stuff hangs for days it is unlikely he would have employed it if he hoped to occupy the place. Last night, after twice laying an intense barrage to a considerable depth, the Germans attempted to advance north of Anchoyville but were smothered by artillery and were unable to advance.

PREMIER'S MESSAGE TO INDIA.

London, April 7.
The Press Bureau announces that Mr. Lloyd George has sent a message to the Viceroy of India as follows: At this time when the intention of Germany's rulers to establish tyranny not only throughout Europe but in Asia has become transparently clear, I ask the Government and people of India to redouble their efforts. Thanks to the heroism of the British armies and their Allies the enemy's attempt on the West is being checked, but to prevent the menace spreading Eastward every lover of freedom and law must play his part. I have no doubt that India will add to the laurels already won and equip itself on an even greater scale than now as a bulwark which will save Asia from the tide of oppression and disorder which it is the enemy's object to achieve. The Viceroy has replied that all India is stirred to the depths by the noble sacrifices of the British people in the cause of the world's freedom and the stern and unalterable resolution that those sacrifices evince. India, anxious yet confident, fully realises the great issues at stake and your trumpet call at this crisis will not fall on deaf ears. I feel confident that it will awake the Princes and people's leaders to a keener sense of the grave danger which, stemmed in Europe, now threatens to move eastwards. I look to them for the fullest effort and fullest sacrifice to safeguard the soil of their Motherland against all the attempts of a cruel and unscrupulous enemy and to secure the final triumph of the ideals of justice and honour for which the British Empire stands.

RUSSIAN DENUNCIATION OF JAPAN.

Petrograd, April 7.
The Council of Commissaries in a manifesto accuses Japan of striving to crush the Republic and seize Siberia and declares that Japan is a deadly enemy of the Republic. It says that the Council has demanded an explanation and warns the Allies that their replies will greatly influence the Council's foreign policy. M. Joffe has been appointed Ambassador to Berlin and M. Kamenev to Vienna.

U. S. LIBERTY LOAN.

New York, April 7.
The first day's subscriptions to the Third Liberty Loan were three billion dollars. In New York and throughout the country they exceeded the subscriptions of the first days of the two former loans. Over one hundred millions was subscribed in New York. The subscriptions include the Bankers' Trust Company twenty-five millions, the National Park Bank twenty millions, the Corn Exchange Bank sixteen millions.

CANTON NEWS.

Our Canton correspondent writes under date of April 8 as follows:—The funeral of Ching P. Kwong is indefinitely postponed pending the arrival of Lady Ching, who refuses to agree to a State burying ceremony and the location of the grave in Dutch Folly, while the members of the Special Parliament say that what has been decided in the Parliament cannot be altered. It is reported that Lady Ching is very anxious to have the murderers brought to justice. During a thunder storm on the afternoon of the 6th inst. two houses in the city were damaged by lightning and a girl was hurt. Tong Chiyaw, Tachun of Kunnan, has sent an official with

TRAMWAY RETURNS.

The following is the approximate statement of the Hongkong Tramway Company's traffic receipts for the week ending April 6, 1918:—

	Receipts for week.	Aggregate Receipts for 14 weeks.
This Year: ...	\$13,111	191,671
Last Year: ...	13,142	189,087
Increase: ...	—	2,604
Decrease: ...	—	3

\$500,000 with which to purchase ammunition from the arsenal for attacking Yochow from Eschuan. Sam Hangying has reported that 18 battalions are now fighting severely in the neighbourhood of Shaka-Sing with Loong's troops. The result is not yet known.

TELEGRAMS.

THE SILVER MARKET.

London, April 8.
Silver is quoted at 451 and the market is very quiet.

TRAMCAR ACCIDENT.

Inquest at the Magistracy.

At the Police Court this afternoon, before Mr. E. D. O. Wolfe, sitting as Coroner, an inquest was held into the circumstances attending the death of an unknown Chinese male, supposed to be a mendicant, who died as the result of injuries sustained through his being knocked down by tramcar No. 50, on the Praya East, at about 7.30 p.m. on March 25. The jury was composed of the following:—Messrs. C. T. Gaudell, J. Grace, and A. Lay. Dr. McKenny deposed to the deceased being admitted to the Government Civil Hospital. He was then quite unconscious, and suffering from a fracture of the skull, which proved fatal by itself the next morning. A post-mortem examination revealed that there was a very extensive fracture of the base of the skull, this being the cause of death. The driver of the car stated that he was taking the car from Happy Valley to Whitty Street. When opposite the godowns at the Praya East, he had to switch the current off in order to round the bend. He rang the bell, and later put the current on again. The road was fairly dark, and when nearing 110, Praya East a number of people rushed out from under the verandah across the road. He was forced to put on the emergency brake, and some of the people tried to turn back. The deceased failed to get clear of the car and was knocked down by the brass hand rail at the front. The car did not pass over the man, for he fell away from the car. Witness and the conductor picked the man up. He was unconscious. A ticket inspector told witness to take the car on and he did so, leaving the deceased with others. Witness denied telling the police that the deceased simply walked into the car. He was running with others. Deceased was only five or six feet from the car when witness saw him. Further evidence was given. The jury returned a verdict of "Death by misadventure."

THIRD LIBERTY LOAN.

Facilities for Hongkong Investors.

The subscription list for the Third Liberty Loan of U. S. \$3,000,000,000 carrying interest at 4 1/4 per cent per annum, closes in America on 4th May, 1918. The International Banking Corporation in Hongkong is prepared to receive applications up to 25th April on the following terms:—5 per cent on application, 20 per cent on 21st May, 35 per cent on 11th July, 40 per cent on 8th August, and will also grant loans against this security.

LINER ASHORE.

We are informed by the Messageries Maritimes that one of the Company's liners has gone ashore near Singapore during a heavy gale. All the passengers have been saved and the vessel, though damaged more or less, is not in a dangerous position. It is expected that repairs will be completed about two weeks.

WATSON'S NAZALINE.

AN IDEAL
ANTISEPTIC and
PROPHYLACTIC OINTMENT.

Specially useful for the prevention
of
CEREBRO SPINAL FEVER
and other infectious diseases.

Gives quick relief in all cases
of

COLD IN THE HEAD.

NASAL CATARRH.

ETC.

PREPARED ONLY BY

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.,

HONGKONG.

TEL. 16.

Correspondents are requested to observe the rule which requires them to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of their bona fides. All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor. Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

Cable Address: Telegraph, Hongkong.

Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C. 5th edition. Western Union
Office address: 11, Ice House St.

DEATHS.

WHYTE.—Died on April 9, 1918, at the Government Civil Hospital, Robert Whyte, late of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, and of Dumfries, Scotland; aged 48 years. The funeral will pass the Monument at 5 p.m. to-morrow, April 10.

NEIL.—On March 28, died of wounds received in France, Lieutenant J. Neil, 7th Argylls, aged 20 years; formerly of Shanghai.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 1918.

THE ALLIES AND VLADIVOSTOK.

Instead of the vague reports—many of them manifestly exaggerated and some of them absurd—regarding the situation at Vladivostok we are now in receipt of facts based on official statements, which place a much clearer view before us. We now know that Japanese troops have landed in the port, and that to explain the landing Admiral Kato has issued a Proclamation to the effect that the reason for the presence of the troops is that order should be maintained. Surely, the state of affairs in Russia, Siberia and Manchuria and particularly in the port of Vladivostok itself justified the action; and what impartial observers will probably conclude is that the Allies exhibited remarkable restraint in not doing long ago what they now have done. For it must be borne in mind that while Japan has taken the initiative in this matter, she is doing so purely because her geographical situation renders this step most expedient. Japan, it cannot be too strongly emphasised, is acting from purely selfish motives—acting entirely with the concurrence and the approval of the Allies. That is shown by the fact that British troops have now also been landed.

Quite obviously the time was ripe for some such action on the part of the Allies, for apart from the fact that the very cosmopolitan population of Vladivostok was gradually becoming alarmed by the excesses that were daily being committed by the Bolshevik officials, who have assumed control of the port's affairs, there was the equally important justification in the fact that vast quantities of munitions—the property of the Allies—had accumulated at Vladivostok during the unsettled state of affairs throughout Russia. With these munitions the Bolsheviks refused to part and with a view to strengthening their claim they had assembled as many Russian soldiers as they could muster and, what was infinitely worse, they had not scrupled to enlist the services of Austrian and German prisoners, which they were withdrawing from Siberian prisons for that purpose, and with whom they are now hand in glove, notwithstanding the bad faith shown by the Central Powers ever since the farcical Brest-Litovsk peace negotiations. In the face of such facts the Allies had no alternative but to land troops, and the responsibility for the present state of affairs clearly rests with those that created the present unsettled situation.

With their usual obtuseness, the Bolsheviks at Petrograd have misconstrued the Allies' action, and, as will be seen in one of the latest telegrams, they are pouring down their wrath upon the heads of the Japanese. The argument of the Russian Council of Commissioners is to the effect that Japan is striving to crush the Russian Republic and seize Siberia. Nothing could be further from the truth. Japan, as any other of the Allies, would be very willing, even at this late hour, to assist Russia in any possible way, as a Republic or as any other kind of State, were she but to show a united front in attempting to throw off the yoke with which Germany has saddled her. The Bolsheviks will have quite enough to do to endeavour to set their house in order much nearer the heart of their unhappy country than is Vladivostok. Not without serious reflection and with good reason have the Allies landed at Vladivostok; and it need not be doubted that it will take much more than Bolshevik Manifestoes to cause them to alter their plans until their task has been successfully accomplished.

The Big Battle.

Judging by the telegrams to hand the British and French troops are more than holding their own in the spasmodic attacks to which the enemy's offensive now seems reduced. Since March 30th, as General Foch pointed out, the enemy's general attack has been completely stopped. Only at intervals has he attempted to proceed, and then only at certain points. The enemy's chagrin may be judged by the fact that he has failed to do in ten days what he hoped to do in forty-eight hours. And as is handsomely acknowledged in the War Review just issued at Washington, the enemy's plight is entirely owing to the splendid defence of the British. To say nothing of their having failed to reach Paris on April 1st, as General Hindenburg boasted that he would, the Germans were wholly unable to drive a wedge through the British forces and likewise to prevent the Anglo-French reserve forces coming. Besides this, the enemy received such a smashing that he was compelled to draw much more heavily upon their reserves than he had anticipated. But, as is pointed out, the enemy's offensive is not yet spent, and doubtless he will endeavour to obtain some sort of success at no matter what cost. Meantime it is good to be assured that under the leadership of General Foch the Allied Military machine is working splendidly.

War Charities.

The meeting held last night for the purpose of receiving a statement regarding Hongkong's contributions to war charities, and for increasing the representative character of the War Charities Committee, was of such a nature as to indicate that the Colony fully realises the claims which deserving war causes have on it at the present time. It was shown that, including the amounts contributed to the now defunct Prince of Wales' Fund, Hongkong has raised in money more than a million dollars—an achievement which is no mean one, when it is recalled that assistance has also been given to war funds by liberal gifts in kind. But raising money is one thing and spending it wisely is another, and in this connection Hongkong has been extremely fortunate in having had the services in London of Mr. Murray Stewart and the late Dr. Atkinson, whose appointment of several thousand pounds has been most admirably done. We were glad to see that special attention was directed at the meeting to the need for more regular monthly contributions, and we feel sure that with the new blood now introduced on the Committee a little steady organising effort will have that effect.

Another "Scrap of Paper."

The Russians have not had to wait very long for proof of Germany's breach of the conditions laid down in the Peace Treaty at Brest-Litovsk. A telegram to hand yesterday showed that the Commission for Foreign Affairs has sent a wireless message to Berlin protesting against the violation by Germany of the Article in the Treaty guaranteeing the security of the Russian Fleet and naval stores in Finnish waters. That the Germans are guilty of the going back on their word is proved by the fact that, in spite of the explicit terms of the Treaty to the contrary, they have taken to themselves much booty in Finland. No one but the Russians, we imagine, will be surprised that the Allies should have reacted. They ended the war by breaking a solemn pledge and they have gone on ignoring their pledged word ever since, when it has paid them so to do. Paper obligations are not the kind of thing which the Germans respect, and if the Russians had had their eyes open they would have seen from the first that the mere drawing up of a Peace Treaty was a piece of sheer formality on the part of the Germans. The Russian protest is illuminating, as showing that our erstwhile Allies now view the enemy in the right light. But that it will have any material consequences we can hardly bring ourselves to believe.

DAY BY DAY.

THERE IS NOT ANY SOUL SO SUNK BUT THAT IT WILL IN SOME MEASURE FEEL THE IMPRESSION OF MENTAL BEAUTY IN THE HUMAN FEATURES AND DEFEAT IN OTHERS ITS OWN LIKENESS, AND IN ITSELF DESPITE THAT WHICH OF ITSELF IT HAS MADE—RUBIN.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the ninth anniversary of the death of Swinburne.

The Dollar.
The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was \$3.05-8d.

Stole an Iron Cable.
Before Mr. E. D. O. Wolfe, at the Police Court this morning, a Chinese was charged with stealing an iron cable from a coal-yard in Yau-mai. Sergeant Murphy said that thefts of this nature were increasing. A fine of \$5, or 14 days' hard labour, was imposed.

Exporting Dollars.
A Chinese was charged before Mr. Dyer Ball, at the Police Court this morning, with exporting 180 silver dollars. Defendant said he had a permit for Japanese and Canton money. Revenue Officer Clarke said he had been requested to ask his Worship not to inflict a heavy penalty and not to confiscate the dollars. His Worship inflicted a fine of \$10.

Back Again.
At the Police Court this morning, a Chinese was charged with returning from banishment before his term had expired. Sergeant Peplow said the man was banished from the Colony for a term of 20 years, three years ago. He had been banished three times already. The excuse defendant gave was that he was sick and returned to the Colony for treatment. His Worship remarked that if he returned to the Colony he would get more sick still. He would have to go to prison for 12 months.

Armed Robbery.
The police have received a report of an armed robbery which is alleged to have taken place at 137, Wuhu Street, Hangchow, last evening. It was stated that at about 8.35 p.m. six men, three of whom were armed with revolvers, entered the shop and stole from a drawer in the counter \$50 in notes and coins. The alarm was raised by one of the shop-folks who sounded a Police whistle. The robbers ran away along Chatham Road and escaped along the railway in the direction of Mongkok.

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

Alteration of Rules.

An extraordinary general meeting of the members of the Hongkong Cricket Club was held last evening for the purpose of considering and, if thought fit, passing the following resolution:—"That the Rules of the Hongkong Cricket Club be altered so as to read as shown in the print signed for the purpose of identification by the Chairman of the Meeting." Mr. F. Maitland presided and there were also present the following committee members—Mr. J. Robertson, Messrs. B. Hancock, E. A. Nisbet, M. Mass, T. E. Pearce, and P. M. Hodgson (Hon. Secretary). The Chairman said:—The object of this meeting is to pass the resolution you have just heard with a view to the alteration of the rules of the Club. A copy of the rules as proposed to be altered have been in your hands for some time. The present rules were brought into force in 1912 and have now become out of date and in part impracticable. They have now been brought up to date but no drastic alterations have been made. The subscriptions remain the same, although the rule is somewhat differently worded. The only other point that calls for any comment is the insertion of a provision for the expulsion from the membership of the Club of those who fail and decline to pay their Club fees and debts. It is hoped however, that it may never be necessary to enforce this rule. The matter is now open for discussion. I therefore propose the resolution you have just heard read.

Mr. Nisbet seconded and the resolution carried unanimously.

THE CENTRAL ESTATES ACTION.

Further Hearing at Shanghai.

Yesterday (says the N. O. Daily News of the 4th instant) at the Mixed Court, before Mr. Grant Jones, British Assessor, and Magistrate Kuan, the case was continued in which the Hongkong Central Estates, Ltd., sued O. S. Suckmeyer, E. Siebert and H. T. Siebs, partners in the German firm of Siemens and Co., for the sum of Hongkong \$8,275.45 for the rent of their offices in Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, under a lease entered into on July 1, 1913.

Mr. G. H. Wright appeared for the plaintiffs and the defendants appeared in person.

The defendant Suckmeyer, in answer to the Court, said that the defendants had nothing they wished to add to the written defence they submitted to the Court at the last hearing.

Mr. Wright said the defendant firm was wound up in October, 1914, under the provisions of Ordinance No. 28, 1914 which corresponded with the Trading with the Enemy Amendment Act, 1916. That Act, and also the ordinance, made provision for winding up the businesses of alien enemies. It was necessary throughout his argument to bear in mind that the defendant concern was a partnership and not a limited liability company. There was no question here as to the limitation of liability, the partners were jointly liable for the entire debts of the firm. There were certain recitals in the ordinance and the first one to which he would refer the Court was that it was necessary that certain alien enemies should be ordered to quit the Colony and that certain other alien enemies should be detained. Counsel took it that defendants came under the first heading of alien enemies who were ordered to leave the Colony. The next recital was that it was necessary that provision should be made for winding up the affairs of alien enemies in order to prevent loss to them and other persons. The ordinance was not entirely in the interests of non-enemy persons, but was passed to some extent in the interests of the enemies themselves. The powers of the liquidator were then defined and there was also provision for the meeting of expenses incurred by the liquidator in the course of such winding up. Then section 10 said, in short, that any liabilities of alien enemies not satisfied by the liquidator, still remained in existence and persons who were interested in such liabilities still had their rights as against the alien enemies.

Counsel then went on to say that the question for the Court to decide was whether the liquidation of an enemy firm under the provisions of the ordinance extinguished their liabilities under covenants of the lease.

The Assessor:—Does the liquidation put an end to the contract, in other words?

Mr. Wright:—Yes.

Counsel went on to say that in the case of an ordinary bankrupt, or liquidation in the case of a company it might be argued that the lease was at an end, but the present instance was not such a case. It was just as if a partnership of pre-war days of its own accord decided to wind up its business.

The Assessor:—I don't think the Court is quite with you on that point. There is a compulsory element in this winding up, which is more analogous to a liquidator in bankruptcy than to a voluntary liquidation.

Mr. Wright said that enjoining there was an order of a Court to wind up a partnership business that would not release partners of their liability. The only difference here was that the liquidation was not at the instigation of the partners themselves, nor by order of a Court, but by virtue of the provisions of a particular enactment. The question was, did that make any difference? There was no question here of the confiscation of the property of the defendants and the ordinance did not interfere with the lease in any event and it might have run out by assignment or by means of a sub-tenant.

Mr. Wright:—The liquidator, who is their agent.

Mr. Suckmeyer at this point interjected that the liquidator was not their agent. He was appointed by the Government of Hongkong. He had nothing to do with it.

Counsel, continuing, said that the law on the question of the position of alien enemies with regard to leases on the outbreak of war was very clearly defined in three cases which he was going to quote. They proved beyond any doubt, from the legal point of view, that the liability of Siemens and Co. as to the lease was by no means extinguished by the outbreak of war or by the liquidation which took place under the provisions of the ordinance.

Counsel quoted *Halley v. Essex* (1858, 1 K.B., p. 707) which decided that the covenant of an alien enemy to pay rent under a lease was not extinguished by the outbreak of war. The second case was that of the *London and Northern Estates Co., Ltd., v. Schlesinger* (1916, 1 K.B., p. 20). In this case the alien enemy was prohibited from residing in a certain area which included the premises the subject matter of a lease into which he had entered. It was held that he was liable on his covenant, to pay his rent. The third case was one in which the alien enemy was repatriated and his business was liquidated. The Court held that the completion of the liquidation did not extinguish his liability under the lease, (in *re Dickmann*, 24 T.L.R., p. 168).

Counsel said that the rent in this case was not satisfied by the liquidator because there were no assets from which to satisfy it.

Judgment was reserved.

HONGKONG TENNIS LEAGUE.

The Annual Report.

Dr. Lindsay Woods, Hon. Secretary of the above League, in his ninth annual report, says:—There were two Divisions of the League as during the previous season. The following Clubs constituted Division I:—Vanguard, Hongkong Cricket Club (A), University (A), Chinese Recreation Club (A), and United Services Club, Kowloon Cricket Club (B), University (B), Chinese Recreation Club (B), Club de Recreation, Chinese Y. M. C. A., and Kowloon Dock Yard. Two new Clubs, namely, Kowloon Dock Yard and Naval Yard, were welcomed to Division II. They took the places of Olympic and Wigwag who were, unfortunately, unable to enter teams owing to diminution in their membership. It is to be hoped that they will be able to enter this season. It is to be regretted that some of the Clubs in Division II did not complete their fixtures, and the Committee feel that the situation of Club Secretaries should again be drawn to this, in order that they may do their utmost to complete the fixture lists in future.

The tennis in both Divisions of the League during the season reached a high standard of excellence which was maintained throughout the season, and although the Club de Recreation won the Championship of Division II comfortably, there was a hard fight for League honours in Division I.

The United Services Club, Chinese Recreation Club, and Kowloon Cricket Club (A) tied for 1st place and had to replay each other twice before the ultimate Championship went to the Chinese Recreation Club.

The accounts show a balance in hand of \$11.83.

The annual general meeting will be held in the Hongkong Cricket Club Pavilion on Thursday, April 11th, at 5.15 p.m. The League tenders its thanks to Mr. O. Bernard Brown for kindly auditing the Accounts.

The Assessor:—Supposing the war were to come to an end to-morrow, the defendant could not re-estate?

Mr. Wright:—No, because they have cancelled the lease.

The Assessor:—Who cancelled it?

Mr. Wright:—The liquidator, who is their agent.

Mr. Suckmeyer at this point interjected that the liquidator was not their agent. He was appointed by the Government of Hongkong. He had nothing to do with it.

Counsel, continuing, said that the law on the question of the position of alien enemies with regard to leases on the outbreak of war was very clearly defined in three cases which he was going to quote. They proved beyond any doubt, from the legal point of view, that the liability of Siemens and Co. as to the lease was by no means extinguished by the outbreak of war or by the liquidation which took place under the provisions of the ordinance.

Counsel quoted *Halley v. Essex* (1858, 1 K.B., p. 707) which decided that the covenant of an alien enemy to pay rent under a lease was not extinguished by the outbreak of war. The second case was that of the *London and Northern Estates Co., Ltd., v. Schlesinger* (1916, 1 K.B., p. 20). In this case the alien enemy was prohibited from residing in a certain area which included the premises the subject matter of a lease into which he had entered. It was held that he was liable on his covenant, to pay his rent. The third case was one in which the alien enemy was repatriated and his business was liquidated. The Court held that the completion of the liquidation did not extinguish his liability under the lease, (in *re Dickmann*, 24 T.L.R., p. 168).

Counsel said that the rent in this case was not satisfied by the liquidator because there were no assets from which to satisfy it.

Judgment was reserved.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

Gray's Inn, where the Prime Minister and the heads of the Air Service recently dined together, comes down to us through the Greys of Wilton, whose home or inn it originally was, from the Bishop and Canons of St. Paul's Cathedral. The inn itself bearing the family name, formed part of the Hundred of Oulton, and the whole was included in a yet larger property. How St. Paul's itself became possessed of the estate is not clear, but it is believed that it was at one time the personal property of one of the canons, who, it was enacted, might give and sell their lands without leave.

Gray's Inn has produced fewer great lawyers than some of the other Inns of Court, but it can outdo its rivals in association with men who have vitally influenced the life of the nation—Thomas Cromwell, for instance, who suppressed the monasteries; Lord Broughley, chief counsellor of Queen Elizabeth, and George Monck, Duke of Albemarle, who practically restored the monarchy. But the Inn's chief glory, of course, is with the Becons, Nicholas and his far greater son, Francis, whose mark remains till this day on the Inn gardens.

The mixture of hope and tobacco which the German Government now supplies to its troops, does not suggest a very alluring compound for a smoker's palate; but it makes an advance, even in Germany. It does recognise the right of a man to his pipe. Until well on into the 19th century it was an offence against the police regulations to smoke in the streets of Berlin. Any offender caught in the act was promptly arrested, clapped into the nearest century-lox, and detained there until the police could arrive and conduct him to prison.

In view of Mr. Crooke's question in Parliament as to the possibility of the Government's assuming control, if not ownership, of the great cotton-thread firm of J. & P. Coats, it is of interest to glance at their story of profits. This sum averages between 24 and 31 millions a year. There was a slight drop in 1916, owing to war conditions on the Continent, but last year a record height was reached, when a profit of £3,385,395 was returned. The story of the company's transactions reads like a fairy tale of finance, for it all revolves about so many million reals of sewing cotton. The business, one of the richest in the Kingdom, had a small beginning less than a century ago, when James Coats set up in Paisley a little factory only 60 feet in length, with a primitive 12 h.p. engine to provide power. Success was attained from the outset, and in course of time the firm was in so powerful a position that it was able to absorb the great rival firm of Clark, Brook and Chadwick. The latter took the purchase price in shares, except as to some 250,000, which was offered for public subscription in 210 shares. The issue price of these 210 shares was £50 a share, a premium of 400 per cent!

General Barzaudis, who is in Portugal, at the head of the British military mission during the troublous times which have seen the overthrow of the Government and the exiling of the President, has had charge of other delicate duties during the war. He commanded the British troops which, in conjunction with the Japanese forces, fought victoriously against the Germans at Taing-tan. The difficulties of the campaign were great, the question of unity of plan not without ticklish problems. But all complexities were handled with masterly hand, and the British General left the East, after joint victory, with a brilliant reputation.

Returned from America.
Dr. Luis Long, of Chicago, U.S.A., chemist, has recently returned from the United States of America. They were studying in America under the Indemnity funds.

Dr. Long, leaving for Shanghai on a business trip on the Togo Maru, and he will return to the Colony in a few weeks time.

SHIP'S OFFICER'S DEATH. THE GERMAN COLONIST AS SPY.

The Result of the Enquiry.

Mr. Dyer Bell, at the Magistrate's Court this morning, gave his decision in the enquiry into the circumstances attending the death of a Dutch ship's officer named Michael Van de Putte, who was Chief Officer of the s.s. Von Werricke, which took place on March 22.

Mr. Leo Longinotto again appeared for the Crown, and Mr. F. I. D'Almeida for Dr. Ton Toon-cheng.

His Worship said:—My verdict in this enquiry is that deceased died from death-radiation poisoning, being self-administered, without a proper knowledge of the approximate dose to be taken. My verdict is "Death from misadventure." In the course of this enquiry Mr. Stapleton, who is a registered person under the Poisons Ordinance, has admitted that he sold to Ton Toon-cheng 20 grains of cantharidin, which is a poison, without complying fully with Section 12 of the Sale of Poisons Ordinance. This provides that the seller shall, before delivery, make an entry in a book kept for the purpose stating in addition to other particulars for what purpose it is required. It is highly important that this legislation should be complied with, and in my opinion Mr. Stapleton has rendered himself liable to a severe penalty. Dr. Ton Toon-cheng said that he had shown the poison to the Chief Officer and then removed the labels from the bottle, after which he put it in the dispensary and did not put it under lock and key, although he was aware that the Chief Officer himself had a key, that he had seen the bottle and knew there was cantharidin on board, and desired it for his own use. Dr. Ton Toon-cheng's conduct is marked by very grave negligence. It would seem the poison which caused the death of the Chief Officer came from the dispensary of the Von Werricke. I do not find it proved as a fact that Dr. Ton Toon-cheng administered it to him.

GOLF.

Some Competition Results.

The final for the Wodehouse Cup was played off at Peiking on Saturday, 6th instant, Lady Ross Davies and Mrs. Maitland beating Mrs. Carleton and Mrs. Goodwin by 3 up and 2 to play.

The Captain's Cup is to be played at Happy Valley from 22nd to 27th April inclusive. Owing to shortness of course, three-quarters of handicap only to be taken.

A most interesting inter-Hong match was played on Saturday last, between Wayfoong and Tai-koo which resulted in a draw. It was a very fine contest, though played in bad weather, and Tai-koo were fortunate in having the services of Lawson, who was champion of Shanghai a year ago. Following are the scores, the opposing players meeting as indicated by the numerals:—

H. K. and S. B. C.

	Singles	Four-balls
1 A. C. Leith	0	0
2 H. A. Murray	0	0
3 E. O. Sandford	1	0
4 R. P. Thurnfield	0	0
5 W. Ross	1	1
6 N. J. Stabb	1	1
7 H. E. Marisel	1	1
8 G. B. Dunnet	1	1
9 F. H. Thomas	0	1
10 G. E. Towns	1	1
11 T. M. Leitch	0	0
12 A. H. Barlow	1	1

B. & S.

	Singles	Four-balls
1 R. A. Lawson	1	1
2 T. J. Fisher	1	1
3 R. J. Rawlinson	1	1
4 K. E. Greig	1	1
5 F. A. Wells	1	1
6 Ross Thomson	0	0
7 A. H. Lay	0	0
8 G. M. Young	1	1
9 J. W. Paton	1	1
10 D. Templeton	0	0
11 T. R. Chassell	1	1
12 J. M. McHutchon	0	0

A World-Wide Organisation.

Mr. Frank Fox, R.F.A., writes:—The past three years have taught those countries which have been forced into war with the German Empire that of the German settlers in their midst a considerable proportion were spies.

In Belgium, Northern France, Rumania, Italy, the United States and Brazil, the clearest proof has been obtained that the supposed peaceful traders or workers of German origin were in very many cases Secret Service agents and military spies. These false colonists regularly communicated to the German Government intelligence likely to be useful in the event of a German invasion, and some are known to have been actually preparing the way for an invader by planning the destruction of their adopted country's means of communication.

When the war broke out the writer happened to be in Lille (France), and it was soon discovered that the German "peaceful" residents in that town had, for many years before the war, planned means to destroy bridges, railways, and waterworks. Some of these plans were discovered in good time and thwarted. On the night of August 3rd, 1914, all the Kab places of business (Kab was a supposedly peaceful German industry) were seized and destroyed: they were found to have been organised to paralyse the defences of the fortress by acts of sabotage. And that is only one example of very many German plots in France.

With the progress of the war documents have fallen into the hands of the Allied Governments showing how widespread was the organisation of German Colonists as spies. It was an organisation that was practically universal throughout the world. Under the title of "The Society for the Protection of Germans Abroad" (Schutz der Deutschen Auslands) it professed to have a number of quite innocent objects. As a matter of fact it was the foundation of a great spy system which, in its ultimate activities, was ready to blow up a railway in a neutral country or place an explosive bomb on a neutral passenger ship in the interests of Prussian military ambitions.

Many German Colonists and some German business abroad, have managed to keep free from the criminal taint of this system of espionage. But it was not for want of temptation on the part of the German Government, which systematically canvassed every German abroad to see how far he could be used to further the ambitions of the militarist party. This was not only during the war, but for many years before the war.

In some of its less harmful aspects the "Society for the Protection of Germans Abroad" was a quasi-secret society. The inner circles were closely secret, and to them was confided the planning of sabotage and espionage. First of all the German residents abroad was approached by a "strictly confidential" letter, which asked him for a great deal of apparently harmless information. Then further information, which involved commercial espionage but no actual treachery to the country which he had made his home, was demanded. A few probing questions were also put to him, by which it could be judged whether he was a suitably unscrupulous character to be approached in regard to more secret aims.

These probing questions asked for information as to dates of harvest, methods of transport, for any kind of photographs; for facts as to German hotels, and German societies. Further, and more serious questions called for information as to the feeling towards Germany in the place, as to whether correct maps of the country existed, and where they could be obtained; as to whether settlers might freely bring or import "hunting weapons," and so on. Each one of these questions was cleverly worded so that it would be possible to elicit

LOCAL WEDDING.

Mr. R. K. Duncan—Miss C. S. Scott.

An interesting local wedding took place at the Union Church this morning, the contracting parties being Mr. Robert K. Duncan, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Duncan, of Greenock, Scotland, and Miss Catherine S. Scott, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Scott, of Quarry Bay. Both the bride and bridegroom are well-known in Hongkong, the bride being a talented local soprano vocalist, who has often figured at local concerts.

There was quite a large assembly at the church, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald. The hymns sung were "O God of Bethel" and "O Perfect Love," the organist, Mr. Chapman, playing appropriate selections on the organ, both prior to and following the ceremony. The bridesmaids were the Misses Charlotte and Margaret Scott, sisters of the bride, the duties of best man being discharged by Mr. Hector McTavish. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a dress of white tulle silk, covered with white silk net, with silver trimming, and a veil of white silk net and wreath of orange blossom. She also carried a lovely bouquet of white roses. The elder bridesmaid was attired in a dress of white tulle silk, covered with white silk net, with silk embroidery and white lace hat, her sister wearing a dress of pink silk and bonnet to match. They carried a bouquet of pink roses and a basket of pink and white roses respectively. Mrs. Scott wore a dress of Champagne satin, covered with Joffre blue lace, with hat to match, carrying a bouquet of tea-roses.

The bride's gift to the bridegroom was a gold cigarette case, the bridegroom presenting the bride with a diamond ring and the bridesmaids with gold bangles.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the Hongkong Hotel, the newly married pair later leaving for the honeymoon, which will be spent in Japan. The bride's going away costume was of brown satin with hat to match.

The presents were numerous and well selected.

For them a passably innocent interpretation. But any German Military Intelligence Officer, having the answers of this fellow-German before him, could judge how far that German was likely to prove capable as a military spy; and could also gather a fairly correct idea as to how far he was likely to be willing to act in that capacity.

The "strictly confidential" letter then asked for "personal information," and put the crucial question as to whether the person addressed was willing to become a confidential member of our Society. The man whose answers to the examination paper showed that he appreciated the military value of all this information was enrolled forthwith in the army of spies. With characteristic Prussian thoroughness Germans abroad willing to become "confidential members" were asked to "send their photographs at an early date." Such photographs would be useful, almost essential, for the use of the master spies who controlled the branches of the organisation. It is to be remembered, too, that it was part of the duty of all members of this society to spy upon their fellow German colonists, and provide all information likely to help the Fatherland in the matter of gathering in every available vestige of its "cannon-fodder," when need arose; the approved spies themselves being held immune and received for higher things, in the way of sabotage and espionage.

This was the system applied to all Germans abroad, the system which raised up for Germany a host of spies; and they were the more dangerous as they seemed to be merely industrious traders and farmers.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

SAUSAGES. SAUSAGES.

A Variety to suit all tastes

OXFORD SAUSAGES.

CAMBRIDGE "

PORK "

BEEF "

&c.,

LIVER SAUSAGES.

BOLOGNE, HEAD CHEESE.

BLACK PUDDING.

WHITE "

&c,

&c.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE

HONGKONG.

TOMBOLA.

(IN AID OF WAR CHARITIES.)

GIFTS WANTED FOR PRIZES.

LAST DAY FOR RECEIVING.

THURSDAY, 11th APRIL, 1918.

HAVE YOU SENT YOURS?

IF NOT PLEASE SEND IMMEDIATELY TO.

RECEIVING DEPOT:—

Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., (Office, 1st floor.)
10 a.m. to Noon and 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.Bulky articles will be sent for on application to
Hon Sec. "TOMBOLA," P. O. Box No. 94, Hongkong.

NO GIFT TOO LARGE.

NO GIFT TOO SMALL.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

Strong Support from the Profession.

The Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh have issued a statement in which support is given to the proposal to establish a Ministry of Health, and suggestions as to the composition and purpose of such a Ministry are made.

The statement admits that the health of the country has received benefit from the work of the various Government departments under which the administration of the health measures was developed, but urges that the departments are limited in their sphere, and that a comprehensive measure of success has not been attained. A fundamental weakness lies in the fact that with none of the departments concerned is the control vested in a Minister appointed primarily to deal with health problems. What is required is the creation of a Ministry, which shall coordinate itself with health matters pure and simple, and to whose jurisdiction shall be transferred from other departments the operations of all existing enactments in so far as they deal with health.

To this end the Royal College makes the following suggestions:—

That the department should consist of the Minister and a Board of Health, of which the Minister should be chairman, and whose members should be selected on the ground of experience and interest in matters pertaining to health.

That the purpose of the department should be to administer the Health Act, to devise executive measures for dealing with health problems, not hitherto defined by legislative measures, to institute inquiries with a view to introducing measures for improving conditions affecting health, and to develop facilities for investigation of problems in health and disease as they may arise.

That the board should include three groups of members—(1) administrative officials; (2) laymen, with wide experience of health problems, or in the administration of hospitals and other health agencies, official or voluntary; (3) medical members who have had experience in public health service, general practice, special clinical departments, including industrial medicine, medical research, and medical statistics.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

LOST.

LOST.—On Saturday from 6, Stewart Terrace, Peak, a BLACK TOM CAT, with leather collar. Finder please communicate with above address or Telephone 2532.

TO BE LET.

TO BE LET.—RESIDENTIAL FLAT in Prince's Building. Apply to—THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.

TO BE LET.

TO BE LET.—No. 3, CANTON Villas, Kowloon. Apply to—THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY LIMITED.

AN Interim Dividend of 8% (\$4.00 per share) has been declared payable on the 8th instant. Transfer Books will be closed from the 15th to the 18th instant both days inclusive.

DOUGLAS, LAPRAIK & CO.
General Managers.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 6th April, 1918.

AERTEX

THE ORIGINAL

CELLULAR

We have now a full range of garments made for this cloth which is by far the most suitable and healthy to wear in hot weather, being cool, non-irritant and extremely durable.

SHIRTS — PYJAMAS

— UNDERWEAR —

Call and see them before deciding "what to wear."

MACKINTOSH

A CO., LTD.

MEN'S WEAR SPECIALISTS.

16, DES VŒUX ROAD.

TELEPHONE NO. 15

Powell

TELEPHONE 346

A NEW CONSIGNMENT OF

GENTLEMEN'S

BOOTS AND SHOES

JUST UNPACKED.

— o —

INCLUDING

HEAVY MARCHING BOOTS.

— o —

BLACK and BROWN

BOOTS AND SHOES.

— o —

BRITISH MADE.



NEW COLUMBIA DANCE RECORDS.

A 5644	A PERFECT DAY	WALTZ
A 5643	SUGAR LUMP	FOX-TROT
A 5945	KATINKA	ONE-STEP
A 5133	GARDEN OF DREAMS	WALTZ
A 5956	AMARYLLIS	WALTZ
	THE CENTURY GIRL	WALTZ

THE ANDERSON MUSIC CO., LTD.
16, DES VŒUX ROAD. TEL. 1322.

JUST ARRIVED.

A Fresh Consignment of

BURGOYNE'S SPECIALLY

SELECTED BURGUNDY RESERVE

RECOMMENDED BY THE MEDICAL FRATERNITY.

Burgundy Reserve per case 12 qts. duty paid 24.00

" " " " 24 pils. " 26.00

Claret Reserve " 12 qts. " 24.00

" " " " 24 pils. " 26.00

SOLE AGENTS:

GANDE, PRICE & CO., LTD.

TEL. NO. 135.

Wine Merchants.
Hongkong

WAR CHARITIES.

Hongkong's Splendid Contribution.

A meeting of the War Charities Committee was held last evening in the Chamber of Commerce room, City Hall, over which His Excellency the Governor presided. He was supported by Hon. Mr. E. E. Sharp, K.C. (Chairman of Executive Committee), Hon. Mr. E. B. Hallifax (Hon. Secretary), Mr. N. J. Stubb (Hon. Treasurer), Mr. H. C. Sandford (Assistant Hon. Treasurer), Hon. Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Hon. Mr. D. Landale, Hon. Mr. Ho Fook and Mr. H. W. Looker. There were also present: Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, Mr. S. H. Dodwell, Mr. E. V. D. Parr, Mr. W. L. Patterson, Mr. A. B. Lowe, Mr. E. Sutherland, Mr. A. H. Skelton, Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald, Mr. J. Plummer, Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Professor Middleton Smith, Mr. H. A. Cartwright, Mr. Chan Kaiming, Mr. Ng Hon Tze, Mr. J. D. Wright, Mr. J. McPherson, Mr. E. Silva Netto and others.

Circulated among those present was a list of the charities which had benefited from the fund, this (which has already been published) showing that nearly \$700,000 has been distributed among some sixty institutions.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

The Hon. Mr. E. E. Sharp, K.C., said that the present Executive Committee had been responsible for the distribution of the Funds for more than two years, or ever since the beginning in January, 1916, when the Prince of Wales Fund was closed. The report before the meeting covered the whole of what had been done up to the 15th of last month. The receipts showed that altogether a total of over \$698,000 had been raised in that period for war charities. To that total Sir Paul Chater had added the results of a collection he had made round the mercantile houses of the Colony, which was over \$185,000 and which he hoped to raise to two lakhs. For that splendid contribution they were indebted to the generosity of Hongkong firms and also to the successful efforts of Sir Paul. It would thus be seen that very soon the contributions to the fund would reach a total of \$1,000,000 (Applause). With regard to the expenditure the Executive Committee had proceeded on three lines. The first was the direct allocations of the Executive Committee itself, which formed the bulk of what had been given. The second was allocations to minor, but none the less useful, charities which had been made at the discretion of their London representative, Mr. Murray Stewart, to whose help they owed much. The last method of distribution had been the passing on of specially earmarked subscriptions, and those comparatively small sums accounted for the small and uneven sums appearing in the accounts. With regard to the work of Mr. Stewart in London, the Committee early found it necessary to have a representative in London. In these days of slow mails it was almost impossible to keep the necessary prompt touch with new developments and ascertain the usefulness of certain small organisations. Mr. Stewart had done that for them and had done it exceedingly well. (Applause). He had distributed at least between two and three thousand pounds among minor war charities, no individual sum having exceeded \$100. He had also ascertained information about the larger charities which had helped the Committee in great measure. At first he had the great assistance of Dr. Atkinson, but since the latter's death Mr. Stewart had done the work alone. Mr. Stewart's method of distribution, it would be seen by a letter he had written, was on the same lines followed here. The letter stated that anything original in the way of War Charities was now past and it was just a matter of keeping going those already established. So in the main he was keeping to old friends which he knew something about. He (the speaker) thought that Mr. Stewart's selections had been exceedingly good ones, and he certainly spared himself no trouble in the distribution of the gifts. When dealing with tobacco and cigarettes he put the consignments all into packets and thus

sent them to the men. That had entailed a great deal of labour and the best thanks of the Committee were due to Mr. Stewart for what he had done. (Applause). As regards the Executive's own allocations they had been as wide as possible to the most useful objects, the committee selecting those charities which were doing the most immediate and practical work. Details of the allocations had been regularly published and as would be seen, local claims came first. The item in the accounts, Materials for the Working Parties, was something over \$100,000. Hongkong working parties were organised as a branch of the Queen Mary's Needlework Guild with Lady May as President and Mrs. Stubb as Vice-President. Those parties included practically all the ladies in the Colony and the enormous quantities of useful articles which their indefatigable labours had produced had been sent away to the various fronts and hospitals. Many letters of thanks had been published in the press showing how valuable those articles were. In the important matter of shipment they had to thank various shipping companies, especially the C.P.O.S. and Messrs Butterfield and Swire for their generosity in sending the parcels free of charge. (Applause). They had made the Royal Flying Corps Hospital a standing charge on the fund of £200 a month for the support of the Hongkong ward which was started two years ago and which they had undertaken to maintain until the end of the war. They were also giving further \$1,000 a year towards the general funds of the Hospital. The item of \$24,000 for the British Red Cross was due to the Our Day efforts and the Committee did not add further from their General Fund except specially earmarked contributions. The last Our Day realised over \$10,000 as against \$5,000 the previous year. That was the largest amount yet realised on one day although they all hoped that the forthcoming St. George's Day would beat it. To prisoners of war they had given over \$5,000. Although the arrangements in England at one time overlapped they were now all organised under a central committee. Mr. Hallifax had many postcards from recipients showing that but for those articles the men would in many cases have gone short of even necessary food. There was only one other item that he thought needed reference to and that was the French Red Cross to which they had given over \$2,000. That organisation was perhaps more in need of help than the British Red Cross and was worthy of their best support. It would be noticed that there were comparatively few allocations to funds for sailors, either naval or mercantile, who had played so splendid a part in the war. A King George's Fund for sailors had lately been established, and no doubt a substantial sum would be allocated to this from our fund. Mr. Sharp concluded by saying that several members of the Executive Committee were away at the present time and that it was felt there was a need for fresh blood being introduced. He then submitted the report and accounts for approval.

The Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak, in rising to second the adoption of the report and accounts, said he wished to endorse the remarks which had fallen from the Hon. Mr. Sharp, upon the magnificent sum which had been raised up to the present in the Colony, which already, when coupled with the Prince of Wales Fund, amounted to over a million dollars. The sum was one of which they might well be proud, as having done in some small measure their part thus far, but he thought they would all agree with him that the greatest call lay before them and in the comparative shelter and safety which was found in Hongkong they owed a still greater debt of gratitude to those who were fighting a grim battle for the very existence of the British nation. (Applause). In recognition of this tremendous fight which was even now being fought on French soil they were desirous of putting forward greater efforts than ever before, in payment of the sacrifice of those fighting on their behalf, because they could not do so

and because they were a small part of a great Empire whose one desire was to bring this war to a successful issue, cost what it may. (Applause). Reference had been made to the work which had been done by the Ladies' Committee, and he thought no tribute too high could be paid to the steady, solid, self-sacrificing work which had been carried on in all weathers and under trying conditions throughout the year. (Applause). Reference was also made by the Vice-President to the work which had been done by the shipping companies and he thought the name of Messrs. Shewan Tomes, who had not only forwarded cases free of charge but had assisted the Committee in various ways, had been omitted by error. Reference had also been made to the contribution made in the past by the St. George's Society. As far as he could pledge the Society at present they desired that the fund raised on the coming day should be managed by the War Charities Committee. The funds which St. George's Day would realise would be large, though during the coming celebrations they must be greatly affected by the unfortunate visitation they had. They desired that the contribution should be added to the common effort so that the whole amount raised for War Charities by the Colony might be one worthy of the eminent reputation of the Colony. With these few remarks he begged to second the adoption of the report and accounts.

The motion was then put and carried.

His Excellency the Governor said they would proceed to the principal object of business for which the meeting had been called, that was to enlarge the General Committee so that it might be thoroughly representative of all sections of the British community. It was hardly necessary for him to read the names of the existing General Committee as they were familiar with them and it would save time if he read them the names of persons whom it was suggested might give valuable services. Of course it was open to any one to suggest other names if they so desired. The names he suggested were Messrs. S. H. Dodwell, R. M. Dyer, T. F. Hong, E. P. White, W. Adamson, E. Hancock, E. Ormiston, Ross Thompson and O. Montague Ede, Sir Charles Eliot (representing the University), Mr. Graham, of the Kowloon Dock Company, Dr. Forsyth, representing the Kowloon peninsula, Mr. Reid, representing Taikeo Dock, the Bishop representing the Church and Mr. Aicelli representing the Indian community, and Messrs. Hay, Sutherland and Lee representing the historic art, which had rendered most valuable service to the fund. Then there should be a representative of the press. The press was a delicate institution to tamper with so it would be left to them to nominate their representative themselves. They would also like to have representatives of the St. George's Society and St. Andrew's Society. The object of having a thoroughly representative committee was to co-ordinate the special efforts which were being made and to prevent wasteful overlapping and interference with monthly subscriptions. He would suggest that so far as special efforts were concerned they should be limited to the four days that had already been established, namely "Our Day," "St. George's Day," "Bastille Day" and possibly "Kowloon Day" which was held for the first time on the first day of this year. As he had said on many occasions, what the Executive Committee desired was a large monthly subscription list. At the present time the monthly subscription list was only \$3,000 and it was a notable fact that \$1,000 of that sum was subscribed by two individual subscribers and one firm. It had been suggested that the representatives of the different sections should make it their special care to promote monthly subscriptions. The men who undertook that duty would have a good deal of work on their hands. "I take this opportunity," His Excellency continued, "of welcoming the American Red Cross" (Applause). During the past few weeks we have learned to appreciate to the

full what it is to have America with us in this war. (Applause). In conclusion I wish on your behalf to express our sorrow at the loss we have sustained in the untimely death of Dr. Atkinson and our great appreciation both for him and Mr. Murray Stewart for the splendid work they have done for us in London. (Applause). His Excellency concluded that he understood that the Chinese members of the General Committee had some proposal to make for extending the work among the Chinese community. (Applause). He would be glad if members would suggest additional names other than those he had read, either for the General Committee or the representative list.

Hon. Mr. Holyoak suggested that Mr. Sinclair's name should be added as representing the stage and His Excellency also added the name of Mr. E. V. D. Parr.

Mr. Lau Chu Pak then read the following list of names, saying that those gentlemen would no doubt be of great assistance to the General Committee: Messrs. Tong Yit-shuen and his colleagues of the Tung Wah Hospital, Tang Ping-sheng and his colleagues of the Po Leung-kuk, Chan Shan-soon, Chan Lok-chue, Lo Ket-ping, Wong Kam-tak, Lo Cheung-shin, Chao Yee-tung, Ip Sau-chi, Ip Lan-chuen, Chan Tien-shun, Tong Chi-ngan, Kam Yik-kai, Kam Chi-nam, Leung Iu-kong, Li Shun-fan, Tee Yam-chi, Chan Sek-shun, Au Chak-man, Lo Chung-ko, Cheuk-hing, Lai Ching-hia, Chan Fung-shang, Li Yik-min, Yeung Tse-ming, Ho Wing, M. K. Lo, Mok Kom-sang, Ho Kwong, Leung Yau-po, S. W. Tso, Chan Kong-yue, Chan Chik-yue, B. H. Kotewall, Sham Pak-ming, To Sze-tuan, Ma Yuk-shan, Chan Ha, Kwok-wat, Yan Sui-shi, Kwok Sai-lan, Kok Po-sai, Li Siu-kam, Wong Siu-tong, Se Fat-soi, Chan Cheuk-hing, Yue Po-shang, Lau Yu-fong, Chin Chan-sun, Chan Suet-nam, Lo Cho-shan, Chan Tse-fan, Wong Sue-nam, Li Yan-chuen.

His Excellency said that although the Committee was supposed to be limited to British subjects only, the gentlemen whom Mr. Lau Chu Pak had nominated would prove of great assistance and the Committee most gratefully accepted their services. He asked if there were any other nominations.

Mr. H. A. Cartwright proposed that Mr. A. W. Smith's name be added to the General Committee. The list as completed was then adopted by the meeting unanimously.

This was all the business of the general meeting.

The Committee then sat to elect an executive. His Excellency pointing out that it had been found in the past that the Executive was somewhat unwieldy. The General Committee in future would have more work to do if they were going to adopt the suggestion that the representatives of different institutions and one or two districts were going to busy themselves organising and increasing the monthly subscription list. He suggested that the Executive should be composed of the following:—Chairman, the Treasurer, Mr. N. J. Stubb; the Assistant Treasurer, Mr. Sandford; the Secretary, Hon. Mr. Hallifax; and Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald, Mr. H. M. Dyer, Mr. A. H. Skelton, Hon. Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Hon. Mr. Ho Fook. He thought that would be a strong working committee. The Hon. Mr. Sharp, on medical advice, was soon to leave the Colony, for a short term only they hoped, and he suggested that Hon. Mr. D. Landale would make a worthy successor, although he would find his position no unenviable one.

The meeting agreed to this constitution of the Executive, after which the meeting closed.

Sir L. S. Jameson's Will.

The value of the estate of Sir Leonard Starr Jameson, Bart., is sworn at £45,082. The testator left the whole of the property to his two brothers or in the event of either of them predeceasing him, then to the survivor. Only one brother, Mr. Middleton Jameson, survives. The will contains fewer than 150 words.

DOCTRINE OF THE FUTURE LIFE.

5. Faith and Sight.

Notes of a sermon by the Rev. J. Kirk Macdonald at Union Church on Sunday Morning:—"We walk by faith, not by sight."—2 Cor. 5:8.

A symposium co-ordinating scientific, psychical and biblical research on the subject of immortality was lately published in London, and I take from a review an extract from an essay by a Dr. Haddfield on "The Mind and the Brain." His conclusion is that the mind is not dependent on the brain for existence but simply uses it as an instrument, and says further that "for the present, so far as Science is concerned, life after the grave is not a proved fact, but the evidence is sufficient to justify faith in it." Such faith, he goes on, is often looked upon as a specifically religious function, and suggests to the casual observer a process of "Swallowing what is incredible," but faith, he says, is just the religious counter-part of the "hypothesis" of the scientist, without which research would be impossible.

That supposition about faith being the swallowing of the incredible is widespread and infinitely mischievous. The Church is partly to blame, by presenting its doctrines, or some of them, in forms which defy intellectual comprehension. The casual observer also is to blame, for casual observation, which leads to nothing worth while in ordinary affairs, can scarcely be expected to indicate the path to eternal life. The first and chief commandment is that we love the Lord with the mind, no less than with other faculties. Obedience therefore, so far from honouring God, deprives Him of His due. Faith is not the negation or suppression of the mind, it is an activity of the mind. It is a caricature of Christian faith to represent it as the swallowing of things incredible. It is, in Bible language, "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." The writer of these definitions would have agreed that life after the grave is not a proved fact but one with sufficient justifying evidence.

Sir Oliver Lodge and certain other men of scientific eminence go further and affirm that the thing is demonstrated in the strict scientific sense, but few of us I think, can take that view. The Apostle Paul believed there was cogent evidence and once (1 Cor. 15) he marshals and displays it, evidence from historic occurrences, from natural analogy, moral instinct, and the faithfulness of God. But when all is said, he knows that his daily life with Christ is a walk by faith. In so far as material contact or sense-communication goes, he is "Absent from the Lord," just as we are. For light and strength he must look not to things seen but to things unseen.

Now that is still true. If a man demands that I am to prove to him the reality of a spiritual world as one might that of another continent or another planet, I reply that I do not believe it can be done.

There are competent thinkers who take another view, but so far as I can judge, God has not yet seen fit to make the eternal world a "proved fact" in the strict sense recognised in physical science. It is to be presumed there are good reasons for this Divine reserve, and I cannot but think that the longer we live in the fellowship of Christ the less anxious we are that the reserve should be broken.

It may be natural to think that if "heaven" and "hell" were visible to the senses, people would live in a way to win the one and avoid the other. I once heard a Manchester workman, arguing on this very subject, remark that the visibility of Strangeways goal did seem to keep people out of it. True, and if it did you would have no guarantee that those whom the sight deterred from crime were really better men. Keeping out of prison is not a question of possessing character, but of observing conventions. Remember the answer given to the man in the parable who asks that Lazarus be sent to warn his five brethren or on the way to being perdition.

"that they come not to this place of torment."—"If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead." It is quite possible that, granted the apparition, the five might have altered more or less their way of life. But at heart they might have been even worse than before—hypocritical, self-righteous, with enough "religion" to turn the humanity out of them, but not to plant the love of God in them. But when shall we learn that reforming people is not the same thing as improving them?

Turning to a more grateful aspect of the matter, it is inevitable that we should long at times for some tangible, indisputable, assurance of the spiritual realities in which we believe. Touch of hand now vanished, sound of voice now stilled—the poet does not misrepresent our human yearning, and what a difference, we sometimes think, if it could be gratified if but for a moment! Well, if God saw it was for our good it would be gratified, and we need not assert that there have never been cases in which it has not been gratified in part. But for the most part "It is good that a man should hope, and quietly wait for the salvation of the Lord," assured that those who have passed out of our care have not passed from God's care, and that He will do for them all that love can do, their Shepherd and Saviour in Christ.

I am asked to tell what I think about communication with the departed by such means as "Spiritualism." What I think may not be of any particular value, but you are entitled to the best of my judgment, and put shortly, my view is that it is better, normally, not to seek for such aids to faith, and that Christian apprehension is independent of them. That of course is not to condemn investigation of psychic phenomena or even alleged "spiritualistic" phenomena. Honest and reverent research on any subject should not be condemned from any quarter. Men of competence and character are entitled to a hearing when they report that after long and careful enquiry they conclude that communication is possible under certain conditions with those who have passed through the door of death into another state of existence. (The preacher then referred to a personal experience of his own many years ago which of itself would have precluded him from making sweeping denials.) There had been no mystery, no darkness, no professional "medium" in the case; collusion and imposture were out of the question. To this day he was wholly unable to account for what happened. I have kept quite a friendly eye on such matters all my life, and have long had a very clear conviction that it is best to leave them alone. I distrust these avenues of approach to things spiritual. I deprecate, in myself or in others, the disposition to "seek after a sign." I cannot persuade myself that what is called scientific demonstration of the spiritual by way of the senses is likely to be either very good science or very pure spirituality. I find it healthier to follow the lines suggested by reason and philosophy, whilst by my thinking are pretty clear as far as they go; to trust the deep instincts of human nature, which must come from God if there is a God; and to accept the lofty moral lead of the Christian revelation, bidding us set our hope on high and shape our lives in accord. My soul's anchor here and for any possible hereafter is the personality and pledged word of Jesus Christ, and I feel that if these do not suffice to draw my heart heavenwards that end is not going to be accomplished by messages from other sources in the great beyond. Sight may have been renounced along the line of material manifestation to some who specially need it. But I cannot help being sceptical about it, and am bound to say that many things one is asked to accept as scientific proof make a greater draft on one's credulity than anything in the Christian creeds. One is impressed, e.g. by the triviality of most of the reported communications. Surely the spirits of just men made perfect, or on the way to being perfect,

HEALTH OF THE COLONY.

Eighty Cases of Spotted Fever Last Week.

The weekly health return shows that during the week ended on the 6th instant there were 80 cases of spotted fever, with 60 deaths. The sufferers were one Portuguese and the rest Chinese. There were also three cases of enteric fever (one English and the rest Chinese) with one death; and two cases of small-pox (both Chinese) of which one ended fatally.

For the forty-eight hours ended yesterday there were 21 cases of spotted fever (all Chinese) with 19 deaths; one non-fatal occurrence of small-pox (Chinese) and three non-fatal cases of enteric fever (two British and one Japanese).

POLICE RESERVE ORDERS.

Orders issued to day by Mr. F. O. Jenkin, C.B. E., state:—

Requisitions for fresh issues of summer uniform and for boots must be in writing to Equipment Officer on or before Monday, the 15th instant.

Service Rifles. All members in possession of Service rifles are ordered to return same to Armory at Central on or before Friday, 12th instant. Rifles are to be returned to this office before the 13th instant.

might be expected to make important and illuminating additions to our knowledge. But they never do.

Further, speaking as a Christian, I am struck by the fact that we hear little or nothing about Christ in most of these alleged revelations from the other side. Yet Christ is the way, the truth and the life. By Him we come unto the Father. Whatever heaven may be He is the centre of it, and for those of us at any rate to whom He is all in all, here no perfect state is conceivable of which He is not the Centre. "I go," said He, "to prepare a place for you," and while the words are of course figurative they are not meaningless. Then also the state of existence suggested through the "mediums" is scarcely one which offers much attraction. It seems, generally, to have not a little in common with the vague, unsatisfying land of shades which the ancients assigned to their departed. We are told, e.g. that the young "lives taken" in the war are now eagerly beating at their barriers to get into touch with us here, distressed because we fail to seek them. I do not believe a word of it. It is closer to good sense and the spirit of the gospel to think of them as abiding contented in companionship and discipleship with the Shepherd of souls, who in the days of His flesh drew young men around Him and trained them for His use. Our own training is in progress here, and we can conceive nothing higher and nothing happier than that theirs should be proceeding yonder. Christian discipleship and service are the most satisfying human lot in this world, and if there is truth in the gospel they form the satisfaction also of the hereafter. "They follow the Lamb whither he ever goes," even as the Master said Himself, "My sheep hear my voice, and they follow me and I give unto them eternal life, and no one is able to pluck them out of my hand."

In their sorrow and distraction to-day many bereaved families are said to be turning to these various alleged means of hearing our trembling hearts, that the soul outside the shell of the body, and personality persists elsewhere than here. There is a better way, long known to us in Christ. Had that been followed more faithfully in the bright past there would be less stumbling in the present cloudy and dark day. "Return," says the voice Divine, "to the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls." Live more in the fellowship and service of the Father and you will hanker less and less for the "proof" the senses crave for, and will come more and more to understand in the inmost heart how true was the deep saying of the Master to His some-times-disciple, "Because thou hast seen Me hast thou believed? Blessed are they that have not seen Me, yet have believed."

THE RACECOURSE DISASTER.

CONCLUDING STAGE OF THE ENQUIRY.

POINTED ADDRESSES TO THE JURY.

The concluding stage of the enquiry into the Racecourse disaster was reached yesterday afternoon, when the jury was addressed by Mr. Bowley and Mr. Leo D'Almada. Yesterday we gave a brief summary of Mr. Bowley's earlier points and we now give his speech more fully:

Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (for the matched contractors) said: In his opening remarks the Attorney-General informed you that technically you are here to enquire into the cause of the death of a single person, but he reminded you that over 500 persons had lost their lives in the same disaster. He also invited you to criticise any Government departments concerned, and to advise the Government as to measures to be adopted in the future. The scope of this enquiry is, therefore, much wider than an ordinary inquest, and as my clients, the matched contractors, are not only involved in the disaster, but are interested in establishing the fact that with proper precautions matcheds can be rendered reasonably safe, I propose in my remarks to you to allow myself more latitude than if I were merely defending them from a possible criminal charge.

But the scope of this enquiry has certain limits beyond which neither the Government nor the Attorney-General can authorise you to go. You are not authorised to enquire into the civil liabilities of the parties implicated, whether such liabilities arise out of their contractual relationships, or from any tortious act or neglect on their part; therefore, I do not propose to discuss the question of the civil liability of any person or department; those questions may hereafter be discussed in another place, and it would not be proper for this tribunal to express any opinion upon them.

It is your duty to find the cause of death, and if you were satisfied that there had been criminal negligence on the part of any person or persons, and that such criminal negligence was the immediate cause of death, you could bring in a verdict of manslaughter upon which that person or persons would be committed for trial at the Criminal Sessions.

Such a verdict is a very serious matter and should only be returned if you are satisfied upon positive legal evidence of the criminal negligence. Owing to the enlargement of the scope of the enquiry, a great many statements have been made which would not be admissible in a Court of Law, however useful they may be to you in pronouncing that criticism which you have been invited to pronounce. In arriving at a verdict, therefore, you should discard all theoretical and hearsay evidence, and consider only those facts which have been properly proved before you, but you may add to your verdict in a rider any expression of opinion with reference to any matter connected with the disaster provided you do not encroach upon the province of the Civil Law Courts.

A very clear summary of the Law of Criminal Negligence is to be found in Halsbury's "Laws of England" under the title Criminal Law, pp. 1182. It is as follows:—"A person upon whom the law imposes any duty, or who has taken upon himself any duty, tending to the preservation of life, and who grossly neglects to perform that duty or performs it with gross negligence and thereby causes the death of another person, is guilty of manslaughter. What amount of negligence is to be regarded as gross is a question of degree for the jury, depending on the circumstances of each particular case. The law does not require the utmost caution that can be used; it is sufficient if reasonable precaution, and what is usual and ordinary in such cases, be taken."

To render such a person guilty of manslaughter the negligence must have been the direct and immediate cause of the death, and there must have been personal misconduct or personal negligence on the part of the accused; he is not responsible, criminally, if the death was directly

caused in his absence by the negligence of his servants or others. "It is no defence that the death was caused by the negligence of others as well as of the prisoner; if death be occasioned by the act or default of several they are all guilty of manslaughter; but if the particular negligence imputed to the prisoner was not the proximate and efficient cause of the death, he cannot be convicted."

Now the persons upon whom a duty was imposed, or who took upon themselves a duty in connection with the preservation of the lives of the visitors to the matcheds may be divided into three groups:

- (a) the Government and its officers.
- (b) the Lessees and their assistants.
- (c) the Contractors and their employees.

Now I submit that the Government only exists for the benefit of the public, whose servants it is, and the special departments concerned with the safety of the public in Hongkong:

- (1) The Public Works Department, which includes the Building and Water Authorities.
- (2) The Police Department, which includes the Fire Brigade.

It is obviously the duty of the Public Works Department to provide as far as possible for the safety and convenience of the public and for the preservation of the property of the public; whilst it is the duty of the Police and Fire Brigade to endeavour to protect the persons and property of the public from the malicious or careless acts of individuals.

My clients as members of the public were entitled, I submit, to look to these two departments for reasonable advice and guidance in the design and construction of the matcheds, and for protection of their property from improper use, malicious injury, or damage by fire.

Now in what way did these two departments discharge their duties?

Take first the Public Works Department. I shall show you that the Public Works Department had absolute control over the whole of the details of the letting of the sites and the arrangement of construction, and use of these matcheds.

The Director of Public Works has threefold authority, and consequently threefold responsibility in this matter.

First, as Custodian of Crown Land in general, and of the Wongsheung Recreation Ground in particular.

Secondly, as Building Authority.

Thirdly, as Water Authority.

First: The matcheds were built on land which is the property of the Crown, but has for many years been dedicated to the public for recreation. The Director of Public Works is entrusted with the preservation of this ground, and no building of any sort can be erected there without his consent. He is under no obligation to grant his consent at all, and if he gives his consent he can attach any conditions or restrictions which he may consider advisable.

Secondly: No matcheds of any sort can be erected in the Colony without the consent of the Building Authority under Sec. 209 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance. Here I should like to digress for a moment and point out that although, strictly speaking, a matcheds is a "building" within the Ordinance, it is quite clear that it was never intended that the provisions as to the deposit of plans, etc., should apply to matcheds. The latter have a little code of their own consisting of Sec. 209 and the regulations in Schedule H. The Building Authority has power to relax some of these conditions.

Thirdly: As Water Authority, the Director of Public Works has control of the water-supply, including the fire service. He must have known that the water-supply at the Happy Valley in its normal condition was absolutely inadequate to extinguish any fire, and he might have taken steps, either to increase that supply or, at least, to have warned the Fire Brigade of its

defects, so that the latter might have gone at once to the sea for its supply instead of wasting time in trying to pump water out of a 3-inch pipe.

Now the only conditions that the Director of Public Works in his threefold capacity made with regard to these matcheds were not for the safety of the public, or the guidance or assistance of the lessees or contractors, but rather the reverse. For example, by insisting on a gangway and fence at the back he obstructed free access to the sheds and deprived the contractors of the right to use raking struts at the back of the row, and by allowing the sheds to be within 50 yards of the Golf Club-house and other buildings he increased the risk of fire.

No provisions were made with regard to the height of the sheds, the numbers to be accommodated, the position or size of the exits, staircases or gangways, or the use of the sheds (except a futile condition about gambling, which it was not intended to enforce), no precaution whatever was taken against fire, and no step was taken either to improve the water supply or inform the Fire Brigade.

The excuse is put forward that the same thing had been going on for some 40 years, but gentlemen, many things have happened in those 40 years, and within the last 20 years there have been a number of disastrous collapses and fatal fires in this Colony to remind the authorities of their duty to protect the public.

The questions of overcrowding and precautions against fire, which are of vital importance to my clients, are as old as Noah's Ark—the first building of which we have a record—and these questions have been considered by the authorities here quite recently in framing regulations for theatres and places of public entertainment.

The question of exits and gangways has been similarly considered and should be quite fresh in the minds of the authorities.

No security was taken for the due performance by the lessees of the conditions of the letting; the lessees were not even required to sign their names, or to give their individual names; the auctioneer accepted syndicate names, and could not tell us who the lessees actually were. He thought his comrade knew. Incidentally, this casual method of letting made it impossible in many cases to enforce the penalty provided by clause 6 of Schedule H, as you cannot convict a syndicate as such.

It was a condition of the letting that if the Police objected to any lessee his right might be cancelled, but, as the names of the lessees were never communicated to the Police, this condition was as futile as that against gambling.

Having let the sites in this most unsatisfactory way, and enriched the Treasury to the extent of some \$14,000—the Government always takes good care of that part of the business—the next duty of the Public Works Department was to inspect the matcheds during and after construction. This duty devolved upon the Building Authority, whose staff was, specially strengthened in 1906 in view of the collapses which had occurred before that date, and in order to obviate as far as possible such occurrences in future.

Now I have no complaint to make against the Inspector. We are told that he is a man of practical experience, and we know that he had no data (except his experience) to go upon; he had no instructions as to numbers to be accommodated, position or size of exits, or fire precautions. But the fact that he inspected and passed the buildings without a single objection or comment must have a considerable effect on my clients' position, as it lulled them to a sense of security. If the Government Inspector was satisfied, why should not they be so also?

It would no doubt have been a wise precaution if further inspections had been made on Monday and Tuesday mornings, as the lessees may have made alterations; they certainly introduced furniture and other weighty objects such as cash sweep cylinders, and they installed fires and made arrangements for cooking. Also, the crowd on Monday night easily gave either carelessly or maliciously injured the structures. Seeing that the Government received \$14,000 for the letting of the sites, and that it was known that the public to an unknown number were using the sheds, it seems hardly too much to ask for a daily inspection by the Surveyor in whose district the sheds were. Before leaving the Building

Authority I should like to refer to the question of tests. It appears that during the 70 years of British Government in this Colony no tests have been made either of the materials of matcheds, or of the load which they can carry. Professor Middleton Smith and others have pointed out the difficulties of material tests, but I imagine they were not insuperable, whilst the dead-load test might easily have been made and the live-load calculated, approximately at least, from it.

I have a few remarks to make about the Water Authority and then I will pass from the Public Works Department to the Police. The three-inch pipe was 20 years old—a fact which cannot have improved it. It serves not only the Golf Club and Jockey Club but, with the assistance of a 4-inch pipe, it serves Wongsheung Village and the supply which is pumped up by electric motor to Broadwood Road. All these factors (which were known to the Water Authority) must have tended to weaken the pressure on the fire hydrants. The Water Authority told us that fire hydrants were placed, not where the Fire Brigade wanted them, but where the Water Authority thought they should be placed, which seems rather a curious arrangement. He was not sure whether the diameter of the pipe was indicated at or near the hydrant, nor did he know whether the Fire Brigade had a map showing the position and size of the hydrants—two rather obvious precautions. He detailed the system of telephones and the posting of turn-cocks in the different districts, but he could not assure us that those arrangements had been communicated to the Fire Brigade. It appears that they were not, as the Water Authority's office was "not rung up, and the district turncock, instead of closing the valves to the East and increasing the pressure near the fire, seems to have been a mere spectator."

Now, gentlemen, I submit that it is obviously the duty of the Police to take steps for the regulation of a race crowd, and for the protection of persons and property in or near a public Racecourse. It is well known that horse racing attracts all sorts and conditions of men, from the King to the card-sharper, and from the peer to the pick pocket, and when (as in this case) there is the added attraction of unlimited gambling, and the admitted fact that there are many bad characters in the Colony, the duty of the Police is intensified.

As soon as the races commenced my clients were entitled to a reasonable share of that protection which the Police were bound to give to property at the Racecourse. Now it is clear that the Regular Police left the matcheds severely alone. Chief Inspector Kerr seemed to consider them outside the scope of the duty of himself and his men; he stated that none of them went inside the enclosure formed by the matcheds, the Golf Club, and the iron railings connecting the two. He was engaged in regulating the traffic in the public roads, and no doubt he was fully occupied.

The matcheds and their environment were left to the Detective Force and the District Watchmen. Inspector Watt has told us how his men were posted, and it appears that there were only two Chinese detectives on duty for the range of matcheds—as those privately engaged in Mr. Blake's shed can hardly be reckoned. Two men in plain clothes in a crowd of this sort could not possibly see all that was going on, even with the help of two District Watchmen.

It is noticeable that no members of the Police Reserve were called upon for duty at any part of the Race Course: if such a call had been made, no doubt they would have responded to it with their usual alacrity and efficiency. Next I come to the question of precautions against fire, and this appears to me the most serious question of all.

The Superintendent of the Fire Brigade frankly admits that no precautions of any kind whatever were taken.

As an excuse for the absence of precautions he puts forward the pleas of (1) Old Custom (2) that nobody asked for them and (3) that any precautions, that could have been taken would have been practically useless, as he says that it is impossible to stop a matcheds fire.

In the latter theory he is supported by a number of members of the Fire Brigade, both regulars and volunteers. Now if it was really the belief of the Fire Brigade that a matcheds fire could not be stopped, it seems

to me that it was the obvious duty of any member of that Brigade and of any officer of the police, who noticed that cooking was going on in the matcheds, to take immediate steps towards stopping that most dangerous practice.

A report to the Captain Superintendent of Police, and a warning from him to the lessees would probably have been sufficient.

It is no excuse to say that there was no rule against cooking, as in cases of imminent danger the police should act at once for the public safety, and it can hardly be supposed that such a warning would have been disregarded.

I think you will agree with me that if the heads of the police were ignorant of the existence of cooking, all those members of the force who knew the fact failed to report it gravely neglected a duty which they owed to the public in general, and to my clients amongst others.

But I don't think the theory that precautions are useless is to be taken literally, it has been admitted by several witnesses of experience that buckets of water in the shed might have been of great value, and that a hose laid in position and full of water kept in readiness might have subdued the fire in its initial stages; and that view is supported by more than one independent witness.

Now there was no reason why these two very obvious and simple precautions should not have been taken.

"Old custom" is no excuse, particularly in view of the fact that the Supt. of the Fire Brigade has to see every day that similar precautions are taken in Theatres, and other places of public entertainment, permanent and temporary, European and Chinese.

The posting of a despatch box with a couple of firemen at the Golf Club would not have seriously weakened the Brigade, and a temporary connection might have been made with the hydrant by the Monument, under the road, so as not to block the traffic. Sufficient for one hose might have been kept up, by partially closing the valves as described by the Water Authority.

The Members of the Fire Brigade, who undertake a very arduous and perilous duty, were commendably prompt in coming into action, especially the officer who fetched a despatch box in a motor car from No. 1 Station, but they seem to have been lacking either in information or direction in the use of their appliances.

If they had known, as they should have done, that the hydrant by the Monument was served by a 3-inch pipe only, they would hardly have disconnected the branch and connected the motor pump to that supply. If they had realised, as they might have done, that the fresh water supply in the neighbourhood was quite inadequate for the Motor pump they would have called for the Water Float at once. As it was the Float did not arrive until after 4.45 and was not in action until 4 o'clock, one hour after the outbreak.

Here I should like to remark that there seems to be no adequate reason why the Water Float should not be in direct telephonic communication with the Fire Station, nor why under the circumstances of this case the Float should not have been lying with steam up at Observation Wharf, whence the could have very quickly steamed to any point in the Harbour.

If all or any of these precautions had been taken it is quite possible that, even if the fire were not quenched in its initial stages, the work of rescue might have been much facilitated by the use of one or more strong jets of water, and the person concerning whose death you are enquiring might, for all we know, have been saved, with many others.

I gathered that Mr. Messer and Mr. Wright both thought that it was their duty only to enforce regulations and not to initiate them, that they could not be expected to be wise before the event, but I submit, gentlemen, that every public officer entrusted with the care of the safety of the public should always be on the lookout for possible risks, and should suggest to the "Powers that Be" any new regulations which he considers desirable, and should take steps to ensure that his suggestions receive full consideration instead of being consigned to a convenient pigeon hole.

I have already pointed out that the Director of Public Works and the Capt. Supt. of Police had full power in this particular matter to make any regulations or conditions which they might (after conferring together) deem necessary without waiting

for any legislative authority.

The next class who took upon themselves a duty towards the safety of the public were the lessees, who for their own ends voluntarily undertook to erect sheds, and invited the public at large to come to their sheds, either to see the Races or to try their luck in the Pari-Mutuel or Cash Sweeps, subject of course to the Lessees' commission on the sale of tickets.

I have already suggested that it would have been better to let the sites to substantial individuals only, subject to security, and you have heard that many of the sheds were let to syndicates, some of them composed of clerks, meter readers, office boys and coolies in the Public Works Department. Whether it is desirable for Government Servants to have a share in these gambling booths is a question which I do not propose to discuss.

These lessees had absolute control over the design, dimensions, construction and arrangement of the sheds, provided only that they did not overstep the limits of the Site Plan. They controlled the supply of electric light, also cooking arrangements, exits, staircases and counters, also the admission to, and use of the sheds. My clients could not interfere in any of these details, except to the extent pointed out by His Worship, namely to warn the lessees against a design which would result in an obviously dangerous shed from a structural point of view.

Mr. Bowley went on to recapitulate the design and the arrangements of each shed, with the evidence relating to the first outbreak of fire. He continued:

Now all these sheds 1, 2 and 3 were open to the public in unlimited numbers: Cash sweeps were drawn in most of them, and pari-mutuels run. The crowd would naturally move from point to point as their attention was attracted by the Races and the gambling alternately, subjecting the sheds to the complicated strains of a very lively load.

If you thought that any lessee permitted overcrowding and thereby caused a collapse you might consider that to amount to negligence. Similarly if you think that any lessee started any of the fires which undoubtedly caused many deaths, you might bring in a verdict of manslaughter against that person.

But I venture to submit that my clients could not be held responsible for any overcrowding, or for any misuse of fire: they handed over the sheds to the lessees on completion, and had no control over the use to which the sheds were put.

Before dealing with the position of the Contractors I should like to mention the electric light.

The Superintendent of the Fire Brigade is responsible for the safety of the lighting of theatres, etc., and there seems no reason why he should not have been consulted with reference to the lighting of these sheds.

Whilst you will no doubt have every confidence in the work put in by the Hongkong Electric Company as detailed by Mr. Graham, you may, I think, view with apprehension the fact that some of the lights were installed by Chinese without supervision. This was the work of the lessees and had nothing to do with my clients.

It was the duty of the contractors to construct reasonably safe sheds according to their skill and experience, but in the words of Halsbury "it is sufficient if reasonable precaution, and what is usual and ordinary in such cases, be taken." They were not bound to insure the users of the sheds against extraordinary risks, such as fire, panic, overcrowding or negligent or malicious injury to the structures.

Mr. Bowley dwelt on the substantial nature of the Sze Hop firm and the experience of its works. The firm has a well earned reputation which its members are not likely to imperil by scamped work or faulty material. With regard to the latter you have heard that they spent \$16,000 on new material last year, some 50% above their expenditure of previous years. Mr. Wright and Mr. Sara and all other witnesses who saw the sheds express themselves as perfectly satisfied with the material and general appearance of the sheds: of the Race Course which did not collapse, and you have every day an opportunity of seeing the substantial nature of my clients' work at the Old Mercantile Bank building in Ice House Street.

It has been suggested that the material was weakened by the drought, but there is no evidence on

that point with regard to these matcheds, and I think you will admit from your own experience that although drought may, in fact, have had some effect on these round poles, which are practically in their natural condition.

The construction of these sheds was carried out in the most public manner possible, in the most public place in the Colony: there was no inducement to jerrybuilding, as the contractors (unlike the ordinary builders) reserved the right to remove the materials after the Races, and it was to their interest therefore to guard against any breakage or damage.

The design of the sheds has been criticised and an attempt has been made by several to throw all responsibility for the design upon the contractors.

I submit that this is unfair—the contractors were not given a free hand: they were restricted within certain narrow lines by the Public Works Department: in particular, they were not allowed to put sloping shores at the back, and in front they were pressed as close as possible to the Racing Track. If the contractors had not been restricted by the narrowness of the site it cannot be doubted that they would have inserted on each side and angle of the sheds those raking shores which are such a familiar feature in Chinese matcheds construction.

They were bound to follow their various employers' instructions with regard to dimensions, and arrangements, staircases and exits: to provide as much opening in front as possible and large entrances for the crowds at the back.

They received no guidance, advice or assistance from the Public Works Department or from any professional man, but had to work entirely by rule of thumb, and the light of experience.

I submit that there is not a shadow of evidence to show that they in any way failed in their duties.

I now come to the Collapse itself. We have had this described by many observers from different standpoints. Most of them could only obtain sidelong views of the disaster, and in looking along a row from any position it is most difficult to locate any point accurately. The person who had the best view of the collapse and has given the clearest account of it is Mr. Hodgson, who was in front of the row and obtained a more or less central view of it.

Mr. Bowley related the stories of other witnesses, and that several corroborated Mr. Hodgson. He went on:

These witnesses are typical, and their evidence goes to show panic, collapse and fire all happening, if not at the same moment, at any rate within an extraordinarily short interval of time.

It seems impossible to determine whether the panic caused the collapse, or whether the collapse caused the panic, or whether the collapse caused both panic and fire.

The original cause of Panic may be of the most trifling nature, but once started it spreads like wild fire and cannot be stopped.

I think there are many indications that on the 28th February the crowd was in such a mental condition that a panic was extremely likely to occur.

Shortly before that date the public nerves had received severe shocks: first the Gresson Street Affray, which might cause any one to expect robbery and violence at any moment; Secondly the earthquake which caused great excitement amongst the people generally.

The main earthquake shock was followed by a number of lighter shocks on successive days, until people began to imagine earthquakes at the slightest movement or noise, and there is evidence that the Chinese expected a third disaster.

This nervous condition may have accounted for the extraordinary story of the boy who heard people in the streets calling out a warning against going to the matcheds and for the pre-arrangement which led Mr. Ho War Tong to warn his family and acquaintances to avoid 3-storied matcheds.

Then the outbreak of a new disease, the mysterious spotted fever, was another factor producing nervousness.

Many witnesses have testified to this nervous condition, and many have told us that they thought at first the collapse was produced by an earthquake, whilst Mr. de Silva expected the crash to open its mouth and swallow him up.

(Continued on page 10.)

RACECOURSE DISASTER.

(Continued from Page 9.)

Then the idea that the lashings were being cut created a panic in the breast of Mr. Li Po Lung, a worthy gentleman of great intelligence, so that he forthwith withdrew himself and his family from the shed. For the purpose of my argument with regard to panic it doesn't matter whether the cutting actually took place or not, so long as people thought it was going on.

The cutting theory should not, I submit, be discussed lightly; there is nothing impossible in it; the evidence of Li Po Lung and his son is that they heard the sound of cutting with a knife; a very characteristic sound quite distinct from the sound of breaking, and the boy was familiar with it from watching bamboo men at work.

Colonel Young's statement that it involved the suicide of the cutter does not render the theory incredible; there is even a historical precedent for such a death in the story of Samson, who brought down upon himself the house of the Philistines at Gaza, by pulling out the uprights, and slew at his death more than he slew in his life.

And we can very well imagine that a few desperadoes bent on robbery might have seized the opportunity, when all the spectators were looking at the ponies assembling for the 5th Race, or watching (as one witness told us) the drawing of the Champion Sweep, of cutting the lashings of the cross bracings in one or more of the basements of the sheds. Such lashings are not in the middle of the shed, but near the edge, and it would be quite easy to cut with one of those sharp knives which the bamboo men use, and to slip out before the shed fell. It would be still easier to vanish in the panic-stricken mob, with much of the cash that must have been scattered about. We are told that much cash vanished, we have no information as to how much was burnt and how much stolen.

Of course no good policeman will admit the existence of a crime unless he has a clue, and no clue to the matched collapse has been found—the police therefore are bound to push-pouch this theory.

If any damage was done either intentionally or accidentally to the structure which caused the partial collapse of a floor, that would be quite sufficient to start a panic with the consequent rush to the exits and the concentration of the live load in a portion of the structure not prepared to receive it, and the consequent collapse of the sheds.

Mr. Bowley touched on the evidence as to the fire, stating: "It is obvious that any one of these fires may have caused panic," and it is probable that each of them caused a number of deaths; and for such deaths my clients cannot be held responsible.

It is argued that the pile of bodies at No. 8 and the condition of the bodies proves that the collapse commenced there, but there is no medical evidence to support this theory.

The death in the case before you was due to suffocation and that might have resulted either from collapse or fire; and Dr. Macfarlane has told you that the position of the legs does not necessarily point to suffocation.

I suggest that the pile of bodies at No. 8 was caused by a combination of causes. We know that the sheds fell towards No. 8, but the top-floor of No. 8 fell in the opposite direction—this gives us a double quantity at that point. Such congestion would increase the panic and the difficulty of getting out. The shed itself is so strongly constructed with a forest of uprights, cross-braces, staircases etc. that its very strength again added to the difficulties of extrication. Finally we know that the fiercest fire started near this spot, and rendered the chances of escape from this mass of struggling humanity practically nil. It does not follow however that any of these persons were killed by collapse, all or any of them may have been killed by the fire. The pile of bodies at that point also points to the fact that sheds 8 and 9 were seriously overcrowded.

Finally we come to the evidence of experts, professional and amateur.

I will first deal with those who criticised the construction of the matched sheds unfavourably.

With all respect to Colonel Ward I venture to submit that he gave his opinion somewhat hastily.

You will remember that the gallant Colonel came into Court, glanced at the model of No. 16 and

said, "there is the cause of the collapse."

Now No. 16 by itself is like a brick standing on end—it is top-heavy; but the range of matched sheds taken as a whole were like a brick lying on its broad side which is not top-heavy. At every point of the row the base was broader than the height.

Then we were told that the structure was faulty for want of diagonal braces, and owing to the fact that the floors were on different levels; but it was subsequently demonstrated that the provision of diagonal bracing is a question of degree, and that you must regard the structure as a whole, and remember that a diagonal brace at any point helps to resist the thrust of the whole range towards that point.

Mr. Messer told us that he had studied mathematics and that if you placed a series of horizontals on a series of perpendiculars and then gave a lateral thrust the structure would collapse; a fairly elementary principle which most of us learnt in our nurseries.

He totally ignored the lashings, but at last he had to admit that each lashing afforded a certain amount of resistance to a lateral thrust, which amount must be multiplied by the number of points lashed.

Colonel Young has had no experience in matched construction, but he has built bridges for artillery, and was strong on the theory of diagonal bracing. Now whatever stresses these matcheds had to stand, they were not asked to stand that of a tank or heavy howitzer crossing them, or any of the special strains to which bridges are subject; and we have evidence that the braces were sufficient for ordinary purposes.

Col. Young also criticised the apparent absence of a strut in continuation of the line of the back of No. 9, but I have since pointed out to you that there is a very substantial strut there, which, though not in line, is so near the line as to afford considerable support. Also that each of the diagonal braces, sloping from N.E. to S.W. in the range from 14 to 9 takes up the thrust as it comes along and relieves No. 9 of the greater part of it.

Professor Middleton Smith and Mr. Dyer both said that, having no data to go upon, they could only rely on the experience of the contractor.

Mr. Chatham, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Wright and Mr. Sara who have all had practical experience in matched structures, all gave it as their considered opinion, that the matcheds were sufficiently strong for all ordinary purposes.

Mr. Denison, an absolutely independent witness whose experience in the Colony is longer than that of any other witness, totally disagreed with Colonel Ward's theory that the floors being on different levels afforded no support, in fact he went so far as to say that the contrary was the case, and that since the floors were lashed to the uprights, the difference in level afforded the latter more points of support.

Finally Mr. Bird, who has had very considerable experience of matched structures, and who gave his evidence in a very clear and convincing way, after a careful examination of all the data before him, laid special stress on the principle that you must treat the structure as a whole, and the only improvement he could suggest was the restoration of those raking struts at the rear which the Public Works Department (in order to protect the turf) had forbidden the contractor to erect.

One final word about "the 3 stored sheds" upon which a great deal of criticism has been passed.

Mr. Wright has pointed out that nearly all the sheds in 1914 were of 3 stories, as they had high basements. The increase in 1918 is therefore trifling, and in 1918 there were even sheds of 4 stories, which stood in safety.

In conclusion I submit, gentlemen, that the only verdict you can find on the legal evidence put before you is that the cause of death was suffocation, which was either caused by collapse or fire, and that whatever neglect there may have been on the part of others, whether in the shape of omitting precautions, permitting overcrowding or recklessness in using fire for cooking, there is no evidence of any criminal negligence on the part of the contractors, who honestly and to the best of their knowledge and skill with good material and workmanship constructed sheds which would stand any strain which could reasonably be anticipated.

As suggestions have been invited for the guidance of the Government in future I venture to submit some suggestions, as follows:

1. That the Conditions of Letting Race matched sites should be revised by the Director of Public Works and Captain Superintendent of Police with a view to the safety of the Public and submitted to the Legislative Council for approval.

2. That sites should be let to responsible individuals only subject to a cash deposit as security for compliance with the conditions, which should be signed by lessee.

3. That the gangway at the back of the sheds should be widened and kept clear of staircases, iron railings, hawkers and other obstructions.

4. That shores should be allowed at the back of the sheds, precautions being taken to protect the turf.

5. That the height, floor space, internal arrangement and lighting of, and the exits from the sheds should be approved by the Director of Public Works and Captain Superintendent of Police before erection.

6. That the number to be accommodated on each floor should be fixed by the Director of Public Works and Captain Superintendent of Police and conspicuously displayed on each floor, the lessee being subject to a penalty if overcrowding occurs.

7. That no fire or light (except electric properly fixed) shall be allowed in any shed in the row. A properly isolated shed might be provided for refreshments.

8. That the sheds should be passed by the Director of Public Works and Captain Superintendent of Police before the Races, and inspected by their officers daily during the Races, and regularly patrolled by the Police.

9. That no counters or other provision for the sale, drawing or cashing of tickets should be allowed on any upper floor.

10. That a detachment of the Fire Brigade with hose ready fixed should be in attendance at the Races.

11. That until a proper fire service has been installed at the Race Course arrangements should be made for an immediate and adequate supply of sea water.

12. That the Water Authority should confer with the Captain Superintendent of Police as to the position and size of Fire Hydrants, which should be periodically tested by the Fire Brigade.

13. That the Fire Brigade should be supplied with maps and instructed as to the position and size of hydrants, the stations and duties of turncocks, the use of the water authority's telephone system &c.

14. That the Fire Float should be in direct telephonic communication with the Fire Station, and the Race Course in direct telephonic communication with the Central Police Station by Government Telephones in each case.

I thank you gentlemen for the kind attention you have given and I apologise for the time I have thought it my duty to occupy.

Mr. D. V. Stevenson said he did not propose to deal with all of the evidence, which had been very fully and ably dealt with by Mr. Bowley. He also did not wish to offer any criticism on the action of the Government, the Public Works Department or the Fire Brigade. His own interest in the proceedings, as he thought the jury knew, was on behalf of the lessee of the United Stand, and he thought the evidence clearly showed, at least he submitted, that the evidence tended to show, that as regards sheds 4, 5 and 6 no negligence or want of care could be assigned to those people. As Mr. Blake had told them, the stands had been built in the same manner for the past thirteen years and had double uprights leading up to the upper floor. Mr. Blake had also said that they had solid wooden counters provided by themselves and not by the contractors. They also had three large water barrels on the ground floor and eight fire buckets. There was also provision for controlling the spectators, two watchmen being stationed at the door, while there were two detectives in the stand during the whole of the race meeting. As in the case of other sheds no charge was made for admission. Accordingly, he, Mr. Stevenson, thought that the Coroner and jury would come to the conclusion that as far as his clients were concerned they had taken all reasonable precautions, such as were ordinary or customary, or usually taken in looking after the interests of the public who attended in their stand. There was only one suggestion that he wished to make—that his clients asked him to

make—and that was that in future if they were to have these matcheds erected for future meetings the Government should direct that the iron fence at the back of the sheds by the Golf Club, and he thought also the six foot fence, the matched fence should be entirely removed. That was the only suggestion that he had been asked to lay before the jury.

Mr. Leo D. D'Almada said he did not propose to address at any great length or to recapitulate the evidence, because Mr. Bowley had already read to them what he considered and what they would probably consider a very full resume of the evidence, making it very fresh in their minds. But he felt he would have failed in his duty to his clients, some of whom were lessees and others the families of victims, if he did not ask them to do what he considered the law empowered them to do. At the outset of the enquiry they heard from the learned Attorney General that the Government desired criticisms and also criticisms against the Government's own departments. That being the case he proposed very briefly to touch upon what he considered the salient facts that had been brought out; but he thought that it would not be out of place if he recalled to the minds of the Jury the oath that they had taken before the enquiry.

Mr. D'Almada read the oath and continued: If their duty was to condemn anyone they would not hesitate to do so. They as men of position in this Colony, as men of high talent and understanding, would not hesitate to do their duty, the duty which was unfortunately placed upon them by selection to the Bench. However stern or distasteful, he had no doubt that they would do it, because they owed it as a duty to the unfortunate victims of the disaster, to the relatives, to the public, to the Government and to the Crown, and he did not doubt that they would not shrink from fixing the responsibility on any party whom they considered to be responsible.

Touching on some of the evidence Mr. D'Almada reviewed the system followed in the letting of the sheds and went on to say that in view of the Building Ordinance and in view of the permit issued to the lessees it was the duty of the Building Authority to see that the matcheds were built in accordance with provisions provided by law and he contended that in view of the permits the Building Authority came within the definition of what was called the statutory duty imposed by law. If there was negligence by that Department the responsibility fell upon them. Whether that responsibility amounted to criminal responsibility, which was of course their duty to enquire, was a question he was not going to lay any stress upon, because he agreed with Mr. Bowley when the latter said that their duty was to consider the criminal negligence, not the civil negligence of any party. They would agree that the Building Ordinance was passed for the safety of the public, and penalties were provided for neglecting it. They had in that Court had many people summoned by the Department for omitting to do this or that thing, and if the public were liable to prosecution for omissions on their part or for any contravention of the Ordinance, he submitted that the Building Authority was himself responsible for any omission on his part in not seeing that the provisions of the Ordinance were properly applied in all cases.

The Coroner: I don't know what you can make that clearer. Mr. Bowley was not prepared to argue that there was a statutory obligation on the Building Authority.

Mr. D'Almada: I disagree with him.

The Coroner: You find that obligation in the terms of the permit.

Mr. D'Almada: Yes.

The Coroner: The terms of the permit are that the person who takes on the permit must comply with the Ordinance. It does not go so far as to say that the Building Authority must enforce the provisions of the Ordinance.

Mr. D'Almada: No, but the Ordinance says that the Public Works Department or the Building Authority must see that any matcheds to be built must be built in accordance with the provisions of Schedule H, or the proper regulations under the Ordinance.

The Coroner: According to the Ordinance it can be well argued that plans should have been submitted, but as to whether there was

THE SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE, HONGKONG.



WAR BOND DRAWING 3 QUESTIONS AND 3 ANSWERS

QUESTION A.—How many tickets have you purchased or how many are you interested in?

ANSWER A.—99.

QUESTION B.—Is the winning number amongst them?

ANSWER B.—Of Course!

QUESTION C.—If so what are you going to do with the proceeds?

ANSWER C.—Give 1/3rd to Charity and pouch the balance.

The foregoing are reasonable answers to the questions but you may have some better ones; if so, please submit them to "War Bond Answers," Post Office Box No. 351, Hongkong, who will give judgment thereon, and sender of the best answers will receive TWO WAR BOND TICKETS AND 5 TOMBOLA SPILLS. Any number of alternative answers may be sent in but winner will be required to produce a War Bond Ticket already purchased for each answer submitted. All alternative answers to be sent in by the 25th of April. They may be in comic, poetic or tragic vein. Judging of answers will be made by the St. George's Day Publicity Committee!

TICKETS are on sale at Banks, Clubs, Hotels, Leading Stores, and the Hongkong and South China War Saving Association c/o the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.

any statutory obligation on the Department to inspect these sheds—Mr. D'Almada: Yes, there was. Asked for the section Mr. D'Almada said he did not know that there was any direct section on the point.

The Coroner: If the Building Authority has omitted any duty it has omitted the duty to inspect. Mr. D'Almada: I submit that the Building Authority has not acted in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance. He himself said that he has not applied the law in this particular case.

The Coroner: He is at fault in not calling for a plan!

Mr. D'Almada: He has not called for a plan and he has allowed the lessees to build any sort of structure they liked, or any height and of any description so long as they did not encroach on the adjoining land.

Resuming, Mr. D'Almada said that regarding the stability of the sheds, irrespective of what he had already said regarding the responsibility of the Building Authority, there was also a duty at common law upon the matched contractor to see that all due care was taken and proper materials used in the construction of the sheds. He agreed with many witnesses that there were not many persons in the Colony who knew as much as these experienced matched builders of the art or science of matched building. He submitted with every confidence that there was no single architect in the Colony who really knew the art and science of matched construction. Such being the case, these things were left entirely to the matched contractor, who alone knew anything about them at all. As to the contractors' responsibility then, it was part of his duty to make representations to the Building Authority or responsible officer, if he knew that the prohibited struts on the Golf Club side were necessary. The Mr. D'Almada's submission was that the contractor was equally responsible for not having made such representations, because the contractor was the man who knew all about

it and who should have seen that the Government gave him all safeguard. As to the Captain Superintendent of Police, he personally submitted that while the Captain Superintendent of Police was not informed of anything regarding these matcheds, it was true that the latter knew all about it, although he had no official intimation whatsoever, and as regarded the Fire Brigade he quite agreed with Mr. Bowley that they should have been there with all the necessary appliances. The fact that certain lessees had fire places did not put any responsibility on them because there was no prohibition against it, and as regarded the limiting of accommodation they received no notice to limit the accommodation, and there was no reason why they should not allow anyone and as they were respectable people. Finally he thought it was his duty to ask the Jury to consider the evidence very seriously and in coming to their verdict if they should consider that the responsibility rested on anybody's shoulders they would have no hesitation in giving their verdict accordingly.

The Coroner: I don't quite understand, Mr. D'Almada. Are you advising the jury to find a verdict of criminal negligence against the contractor?

Mr. D'Almada: I am not here to ask the jury to find a verdict one way or another but to place before the jury what I consider to be the law on the subject and what I consider to be their duty and responsibility in the enquiry. What I should like to add about statutory duty is this (Mr. D'Almada quoted from Halsbury):

The Coroner: Do I understand Mr. Bowley to argue that the contractor would be cleared of all liability if it can be shown that death was due to fire and not to collapse?

Mr. Bowley: I don't think the contractor can be held responsible for fire.

The Coroner: Supposing he can show that the fire was the final fact

do you think that that clears the contractor of all liability?

Mr. Bowley: I submit so. The cause of death must be the immediate cause of death and if the immediate cause of death was fire that was not a risk contemplated by the contractor.

Mr. Wakeman not wishing to address again, the Coroner intimated that the summing up would be given on Friday.

The New French Minister. The new French Minister to Peking, M. A. Bopp, will shortly arrive in Shanghai en route for the capital to take up office, says the N. C. Daily News. In order to welcome M. Bopp and to afford an opportunity of meeting him, the French community will entertain the Minister to dinner at the French Municipal Hall on April 9.

Clergyman's 5 Sons Killed. Rev. P. W. Bushy, of Fries-borpe, has received news of the death from wounds of his son, R. Arthur Leonard Bushy. In October another son, Charles Bushy, died from wounds in the East African Campaign. In September, 1915, Sergt. Barnard Bushy was killed in France; in November, 1917, Lieut. Corpl. H. R. Bushy was killed in France; and in November, 1918, Second-Lieut. Frank Bushy was also killed in France.

Patriotism Corbed. Says the N. C. Daily News of the 4th instant: "Among representative bodies of men in the Far East who have strongly felt the call of the war are the British employees of the China Merchants S. N. Co. Everyone of them has pressed his claims to be allowed to go and serve in any capacity he may—only to be told that he is doing his duty best in the war by staying where he is. Some have gone; the rest were not allowed to leave their ships."

BROSSARD, MOPIN & CO.

Telegraphic Address—"BROSSARD"
Telephone—2566.

CIVIL ENGINEERS,
King's Building,
HONGKONG.

Codes—A.B.C., 5th, A.Z. Francais,
Omnibus and Private.

Agencies:—SAIGON, SINGAPORE, PEKIN and TIENTSIN.

REINFORCED CONCRETE IS ABSOLUTELY
FIRE PROOF AND OFFERS SUBSTANTIAL
RESISTANCE TO EARTHQUAKE SHOCK.

REINFORCED CONCRETE WORKS:

Road and Railway Bridges, Bunds, Wharves, Weirs, Retaining Walls, Dams, Industrial Buildings, Towers, Tanks, Godowns, Frameworks, Culverts, Vaults, Floors, Roofs, Piles hollow and full, all lengths and sizes, Sides and Foundation platforms, Chimneys, Poles for supporting Telegraph and Telephone lines and carrying Electric Light and Power.

COMMISSION, IMPORT & EXPORT:

Industrial materials for railways, factories, mines, iron, steel, pipes, angle bars, steel joists, iron sheets, motors and Fichtel's fire-proof safes.



SAIGON CENTRAL MARKET.

MARINE CONSTRUCTION:

Lighters (river and sea) up to 1,000 tons. Hulks, Ferry Boats in steel and reinforced concrete. Sea going ships in reinforced concrete, Steamers and Sailing vessels up to any tonnage.

IRON WORK:

Frame work, machine tools, boilers, and industrial installations.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE WORKS:

Private and Public Buildings, Factories, Godowns, Tunnels, Foundations in bad ground, by compressed air, Walls, Drains, Sewers, Churches, Hotels and Hospitals.

M. M. Brossard, Mopin and Co., shall be pleased to study all technical and industrial questions and are prepared to supply specifications and plans on every kind of metallic or reinforced concrete construction which may be required. Address as above or to their agents Wm. C. JACK & Co., Ltd., 14, Des Vœux Road, Central.

Reinforced Concrete SPECIALISTS.

COMMERCIAL NEWS.

Gold and Silver.

According to Messrs. Samuel, Montagu & Co.'s circular of February 21, the United States by April would supply Mexico with 21,000,000 in gold. Mexico in turn would remove the restrictions on the export of silver, which would increase supplies of the white metal as the year advances. Note is made of the development of the gold mining industry in Korea. The value of the gold mined and exported each year has risen from Y.416,235 to Y.15,983,986 in 1916—a total increase of 70 per cent. So substantial an advance indicates that the production from this hitherto little exploited country may become eventually a considerable factor in the world's gold production.

Shanghai Coal Market.

Messrs. Wheelock & Co., in their report, dated Shanghai, 25th March, state:—Japan Coal:—There is quite a lot of enquiry from native dealers on this market on account of the enormous stocks now on the spot they are clamouring to enter into forward contracts and consequently there has not been much actual business done during the past fortnight and only small lots of "spot" cargo have changed hands. Although the output from the mines in Japan is being pretty well maintained, stocks at shipping ports are diminishing owing to the shortage of rolling stock on the railways and this is having the effect of keeping prices up in Japan. East Asia Coal:—All the output from these mines available for export overseas is being sent to Japan and there is consequently very little left for China Coast ports. Kaiping Coal:—This market has ruled quiet but firm during the last fortnight. Owing to the possibility of Japan entering the war it may become difficult to secure tonnage, and it would be advisable for contractors to store as much coal as their yards will hold to cover this contingency.

American Consumption of Rubber.

The market in rubber shares has drifted into a deadly dull condition, from which it does not seem likely to emerge until the price of the commodity takes a turn for the better. Mr. E. L. Killick in the *Financial* of February 1. As matters stand, the very best that the producing

companies can do will be to maintain their dividends, while not a few may be forced temporarily to curtail their disbursements. With outputs restricted, costs higher, and heavier taxation distributed profits can hardly be maintained unless compensation is forthcoming in the form of better selling prices for the commodity. It is true that in the case of the young producers smaller earnings will not necessarily involve reduced dividends, because the excess-profit takes all above a certain margin of profit. The old companies, however, that escape liability for duty, will be hard put to it to keep up their dividends unless selling conditions improve. But, although the dominating factors at the moment are not encouraging, the more distant outlook in the industry is hopeful enough, and as rubber share investment is not based on week to week fluctuations in the price of the commodity, shareholders in sound undertakings can afford to ignore the present rather depressed air of the market. Perhaps the most striking feature of the crude rubber statistics for recent years is the way in which America has absorbed the great annual increase in the world's supply. During the past three years production of rubber has increased annually by about 50,000 tons. For 1916 the world's output was 158,700 tons. The next year it advanced to 201,800 tons, and in 1917 the supply was approximately 275,000 tons, of which nearly 80 per cent. consisted of plantation rubber. American consumption shows an annual increase that is almost identical. In 1916 the United States took about 116,500 tons followed last year by 175,000 tons, which means that as against an increase in the world's supply of 55,000 tons in 1917, the American demand advanced by 58,500 tons. In considering these figures, it has to be borne in mind that at the time war broke out the Central Empires were taking about 25,000 tons of rubber annually, and that in normal circumstances their yearly requirements would probably have been nearer 35,000 tons. By this date Germany and Austria have been practically cut out of the market for the last three years, and yet the world's output has all come into consumption. The inference is that a surplus in the supply, far from being imminent, is not even threatened. The difficulties that beset the rubber market at the present juncture are all contained in the problem of tonnage.

THE CAREER OF AN AIRMAN.

(By Lieut. R.B. Fricker, R.F.C.)

"Shall I join the Air Service?" "Shall my boy be an airman?" These are questions being discussed all over the country. The fascination of flying, the romance of this 20th Century achievement has taken firm hold of every young Briton to day.

With the development of the Air Service at the present time, flying men are being recruited from the civilian ranks—young men just attaining military age. Previous military training is not essential and, at present, no technical knowledge of aeronautics or engineering is expected.

The Air Service cadet, before he makes the acquaintance of an aerodrome, spends a lot of time learning the fundamentals of his new profession. He goes back to classes and books again, studying up all the written knowledge of this new science. He may spend weeks, perhaps months, in some old college town, and at the end of the term he may pass out to become a pilot, but not before his mentors are satisfied that he has a thorough knowledge of the theory of flight, the mechanics of aircraft, and the inner workings of a rotary engine.

His days are spent in work shops where, for his special benefit, the thousand and one things that go to make up a modern aeroplane are dissected: cylinders, carburetors and planes, instruments and magnets, all are carefully studied in their component parts; while on the walls hundreds of diagrams explain the function of each particular part. He will attend classes in map-reading, and take notes at lectures on the navigation of aircraft by day and night.

Wireless plays an important part in the co-operation of aircraft with artillery. Walk into the classroom set apart for signalling, and you can imagine yourself in the instrument room of a telegraph exchange. Here the tyro spends hours a day buzzing out the Morse code.

To the impatient young man who longs to explore that new element, whether the romance of war has climbed today, all this seems to be superfluous; but to the authorities who have built up the Royal Flying Corps, it is the most important part of his training. The airman must

earn for himself the possibilities—and limitations—of aircraft. It is the pilots who are most deeply versed in their craft who give the best accounts of themselves overseas; the men who are to hold the air and win their way to the top must be masters of their trade.

The cadets' destination now is one of the many aerodromes that, like broom-like, have sprung up all over England. A few miles drive from the village station brings him past a line of low, grey hangars in front of which stand the machines that are to take him into a new realm of adventure. Next morning at dawn he is baptised in the air. Muffled in flying clothes, he and his instructor will skim up over the morning mist to the region of new sensations, and here you will find him whenever the weather permits.

Between flying times more lectures or signalling practice will fill out his day.

In the mess, after dinner, his education will go on. The day's adventures will be exchanged, garnished with details of spins and zooms, nose dives and slides. Handbooks may still keep to the language of the designers, and parts of aeroplanes will be called fuselages and nacelles, ailerons and cellules, but no handbook will pass in the jargon of the airman. To him propellers and controls will always be windmills and pistons, and his machines will always be remembered as bladders and ramblers, tugs and toppers, elephants and camels.

His "first solo" stage will soon be over, and then comes the test before his C.O., which will qualify him for promotion to another Squadron, where his further training will be carried on. The cadet's new Squadron will probably fly a faster type of tractor machine. Here at first he will be relegated to the observer's seat for more dual control, until another "first solo" effort comes round. His next few weeks will be spent in getting at home in the air, till, in time loops and spirals, he will be part of his daily achievements. If he shows great promise, his C.O. may see in him the makings of a "first class" air fighter, and pass him on to try his skill in fighting "scouts," high powered single-seater machines.

With the earning of his "wings" will come courses on machine guns and bombing, more country trips to strange aerodromes, and night flights, and his training at home is quite complete.

"Overseas" is the Mecca of the flying man. Promotion comes quickly to the pilot abroad, whether it be France or Italy, Palestine or Mesopotamia. Ferrying and instructing are jobs reserved for pilots who have "done their bit" overseas.

An airman's life is not all flying, any more than a soldier's life is all fighting. There are still a few observer-pilots, who went abroad early in the war, who can turn up their log-books and count their hours in the air by hundreds; but such men are very few. There is now a limit to the number of months a pilot may spend abroad, and it will not be many months before he is back in England again, making the acquaintance of the new aeroplanes that have been evolved since he left Blighty.

EXCHANGE.

SELLING.

T/T Demand	3-16
30 d/s Demand	3-16
60 d/s Demand	3-16
4 m/s Demand	3-16
T/T Shanghai	Nom.
T/T Singapore	130%
T/T Japan	139
T/T India	Nom.
T/T San Francisco	72 1/2
T/T Java	159 1/2
T/T Manila	Nom.
T/T France	4.14 1/2
Demand, Paris	4.15

BUYING.

4 m/s L/C	3 1/4
4 m/s D/P	3 1/4
6 m/s L/C	3 1/4
30 d/s Sydney & Melbourne	3 1/4
30 d/s San Francisco & New York	79 1/2
4 m/s Marks	Nom.
4 m/s France	4.29 1/2
6 m/s France	4.34 1/2
Demand, Germany	Nom.
T/T Bombay	Nom.
T/T Calcutta	Nom.
Demand, Calcutta	Nom.
Demand, Manila	145
Demand, Singapore	130 1/2
On Haiphong	34 prem.
On Saigon	14 prem.
On Bangkok	50 1/2
Sovereign	6.50 Nom.
Gold Leaf, per oz.	43.20
Bar Silver, per oz.	45 1/2

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

DISCOUNT PER \$100	
H'kong 5 cts sub.	\$2.00 1/2
" 10 "	" 1.00 1/2
" 50 "	" 1.00 1/2
Canton 20 "	" 7 1/2

BANKS

BANK OF CANTON, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE, HONGKONG

FOREIGN EXCHANGE and General Banking Business Transacted.

INTEREST ON FIXED DEPOSITS:

For 3 Months 3% per annum.

For 6 Months 4% per annum.

For 12 Months 4 1/2% per annum

LOOK POON SHAN,
Chief Manager.

BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE.

行銀業實法中

Capital (Paid up) ... France 45,000,000

1/3 of the Capital subscribed by the Government of the Chinese Republic.

Chairman of the Board of Directors: Andre Berthelot.

General Manager: A. J. Pernotte.

HEAD OFFICE: 74 Rue Saint Lazare, PARIS

BRANCHES: PEKING, SHANGHAI, TIENTSIN, HONGKONG, and SAIGON.

BANKERS: In FRANCE: Société Générale pour favoriser le Développement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France.

In LONDON: London County & Westminster Bank, Ltd.

In NEW YORK: Redmond & Co.

In ITALY: Banca Commerciale Italiana.

Telegraphic Address: CHIBANKIND.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts and Fixed Deposits. Terms on application.

Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

M. ROUET DE JOURNEL, Manager.

HONGKONG BRANCH: Queen's Building, Tel. No. 2352

5, Chater Road, Hongkong, 20th August, 1917.

NOTICES.

NOTICE.

PEAK TRAMWAY CO. LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

TO	FROM	STREET	MIN.
1.00 A.M.	1.00 A.M.	10 MIN.	
1.10 A.M.	1.10 A.M.	10 MIN.	
1.20 A.M.	1.20 A.M.	10 MIN.	
1.30 A.M.	1.30 A.M.	10 MIN.	
1.40 A.M.	1.40 A.M.	10 MIN.	
1.50 A.M.	1.50 A.M.	10 MIN.	
2.00 A.M.	2.00 A.M.	10 MIN.	
2.10 A.M.	2.10 A.M.	10 MIN.	
2.20 A.M.	2.20 A.M.	10 MIN.	
2.30 A.M.	2.30 A.M.	10 MIN.	
2.40 A.M.	2.40 A.M.	10 MIN.	
2.50 A.M.	2.50 A.M.	10 MIN.	

NIGHT CASE.

11.00 P.M. and 9.00 P.M. 10 MIN. 11.00 P.M. every half hour. 11.00 P.M. to 11.45 P.M. every quarter of an hour.

SUNDAYS.

TO	FROM	STREET	MIN.
1.00 A.M.	1.00 A.M.	10 MIN.	
1.10 A.M.	1.10 A.M.	10 MIN.	
1.20 A.M.	1.20 A.M.	10 MIN.	
1.30 A.M.	1.30 A.M.	10 MIN.	
1.40 A.M.	1.40 A.M.	10 MIN.	
1.50 A.M.	1.50 A.M.	10 MIN.	
2.00 A.M.	2.00 A.M.	10 MIN.	
2.10 A.M.	2.10 A.M.	10 MIN.	
2.20 A.M.	2.20 A.M.	10 MIN.	
2.30 A.M.	2.30 A.M.	10 MIN.	
2.40 A.M.	2.40 A.M.	10 MIN.	
2.50 A.M.	2.50 A.M.	10 MIN.	

NIGHT CASES as on Week Days.

NATURDAY: Extra Car at Midnight.

SPECIAL CASE: By arrangement at the Company's Office.

Alexandra Buildings, Des Vœux Road.

* Season and punch tickets available for all lines and already full, running at the time stated.

Season tickets for the whole year for special cases can be obtained on application at the Company's Office, 10, Des Vœux Road, which will be issued and payment therefor has been made in Bank Notes or by Cheque or Comprovisé order registered in the Office.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & CO. LTD.

THE CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO. LTD.

(Capital Paid up...\$1,250,000.)

Loans on Mortgage of House Property, etc. Advances made on Merchandise. Loans made on the Provident System.

TRUSTEES, EXECUTORS OF WILL, PROBATE, etc. Undertaken and Executed.

(Rates and Particulars on application)

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., General Managers.

MARTIN'S
APOL & STEEL
24 HOURS
A French Pharmacy with a complete stock of all the latest and most effective medicines, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical instruments, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical appliances, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical supplies, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical materials, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical equipment, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical facilities, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical services, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical attention, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical care, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical treatment, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical relief, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical cure, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical recovery, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical health, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical well-being, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical happiness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical contentment, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical satisfaction, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical joy, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical peace, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical love, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical friendship, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical brotherhood, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical unity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical harmony, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical concord, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical agreement, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical understanding, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical cooperation, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical assistance, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical support, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical aid, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical help, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical service, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical contribution, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical effort, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical energy, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical power, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical strength, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical courage, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical bravery, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical valor, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical heroism, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical gallantry, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical chivalry, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical knightliness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical nobility, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical generosity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical kindness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical goodness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical virtue, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical morality, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical piety, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical religion, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical faith, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical hope, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical charity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical love, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical friendship, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical brotherhood, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical unity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical harmony, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical concord, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical agreement, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical understanding, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical cooperation, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical assistance, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical support, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical aid, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical help, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical service, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical contribution, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical effort, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical energy, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical power, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical strength, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical courage, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical bravery, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical valor, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical heroism, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical gallantry, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical chivalry, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical knightliness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical nobility, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical generosity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical kindness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical goodness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical virtue, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical morality, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical piety, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical religion, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical faith, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical hope, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical charity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical love, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical friendship, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical brotherhood, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical unity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical harmony, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical concord, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical agreement, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical understanding, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical cooperation, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical assistance, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical support, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical aid, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical help, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical service, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical contribution, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical effort, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical energy, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical power, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical strength, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical courage, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical bravery, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical valor, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical heroism, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical gallantry, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical chivalry, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical knightliness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical nobility, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical generosity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical kindness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical goodness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical virtue, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical morality, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical piety, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical religion, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical faith, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical hope, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical charity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical love, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical friendship, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical brotherhood, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical unity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical harmony, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical concord, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical agreement, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical understanding, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical cooperation, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical assistance, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical support, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical aid, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical help, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical service, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical contribution, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical effort, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical energy, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical power, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical strength, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical courage, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical bravery, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical valor, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical heroism, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical gallantry, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical chivalry, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical knightliness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical nobility, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical generosity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical kindness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical goodness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical virtue, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical morality, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical piety, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical religion, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical faith, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical hope, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical charity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical love, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical friendship, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical brotherhood, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical unity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical harmony, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical concord, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical agreement, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical understanding, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical cooperation, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical assistance, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical support, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical aid, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical help, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical service, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical contribution, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical effort, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical energy, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical power, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical strength, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical courage, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical bravery, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical valor, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical heroism, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical gallantry, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical chivalry, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical knightliness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical nobility, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical generosity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical kindness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical goodness, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical virtue, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical morality, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical piety, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical religion, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical faith, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical hope, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical charity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical love, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical friendship, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical brotherhood, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical unity, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical harmony, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical concord, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical agreement, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical understanding, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical cooperation, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical assistance, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical support, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical aid, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical help, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical service, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical contribution, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical effort, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical energy, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical power, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical strength, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical courage, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical bravery, and a full supply of all the latest and most effective medical valor, and a full supply of all the latest

